FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 OCTOBER 1984

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian and Iraqi communiques broadcast respectively by Tehran and Baghdad radios reported further exchanges of fire in the Meymak area. While the Iraqi command said its Air Force carried out further destructive attacks against enemy targets in the area, the Iranian military staff claimed that its air defenses forced Iraqi aircraft to "flee."

In another development, Ayatoilah Ruhollah Khomeyni held talks with his new representative on the Supreme Defense Council, Brigadier General Qasem 'Ali Zahirnezhad, IRNA reported. Meanwhile, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i stressed that there will be "no chance for peace" as long as Saddam Husayn remains president of Iraq, according to IRNA.

Egypt-Iraq

Commenting on his 22 October telephone conversation with Saddam Husayn, President Husni Mubarak said the Iraqi leader invited him to visit Iraq whenever he wishes, MENA reported.

Gulf Defense

The Saudi Armed Forces are prepared not only to defend the Kingdom but also to protect "vital" Arab and Islamic interests, Saudi Deputy Defense and Aviation Minister Prince 'Abd al-Rahman asserted in a statement reported by SPA.

Meanwhile, a Brazilian military delegation arrived in Kuwait to discuss military cooperation, KUNA noted.

OPEC

The six OPEC oil ministers who met in Geneva decided to defend the price of oil by cutting production, Saudi Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani said in remarks cited by KUNA. Saudi Arabia will make a "substantial" cut, he stated. The production cut was also supported by Iranian Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi, IRNA disclosed. As for Nigeria, Shaykh Yamani confirmed that he will go to Lagos for talks with the Nigerians on their $2 oil-price reduction, KUNA noted. Meanwhile, to stem rumors that Nigeria is planning to quit OPEC, the minister of petroleum and energy sent a message reaffirming Nigeria's support and loyalty to the organization, Lagos' *NAN* revealed.

Lebanon

Al-Jumayyil Tour — President Amin al-Jumayyil said his visit to Libya for talks with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was "very fruitful," according to the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio. Al-Jumayyil was speaking in Rome, where he subsequently met with Italian leaders and with Pope John Paul II, AFP noted.

Rabin on Negotiations — Israel must be prepared to engage in negotiations over Lebanon, even if they are "indirect," Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stressed in a speech reported by Jerusalem radio. As for the Syrians, Rabin expressed the belief that they are ready to negotiate indirectly with Israel on security arrangements through the good offices of the United States.

Israel

The government has decided to negotiate a "shekel package deal" with the Histadrut whereby wages and prices will be frozen for at least 4 months, Jerusalem radio reported. Noting that proposals to link the economy to the dollar were rejected, the radio said the exchange rate will not be frozen and devaluations will continue in accordance with the inflation rate. Further cuts in the state budget will cause widespread dismissals in the public sector and sharp increases in the prices of subsidized commodities. Speaking at the conclusion of the economic debate, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres warned Israelis that the interim period until the economy is healed will be "terrible" and will require a great deal of patience, according to Jerusalem television.

PLO

Saudi King Fahd received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Jeddah, SPA reported. In a separate development, the Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said Palestinian "revolutionaries" were responsible for the death of two "Zionist terrorists" in the Bayt Jala area of the West Bank on 22 October. Meanwhile, ITIM announced that Israeli security forces recently arrested a Fatah operations commander in the Hebron area.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi affirmed the "right of the Kurdish nation to freedom, independence, and unity, and to live in peace with the sisterly Arab and Turkish nations," according to a report carried by JANA. This was in reply to a request from visiting Kurdish Democratic Party leader Mas'ud Barzani for intervention from "concerned states" to end the "operations of genocide" to which the Kurds are being subjected.

Pakistan

A special Cabinet meeting presided over by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq reviewed the country's internal situation, Karachi radio announced. Meanwhile, according to AFP, supporters of executed former Premier Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto joined the "agitation" in Sind Province.

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Khalid al-Hasan Says PNC To Convene 'Soon'
JN231749 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Brother Khalid al-Hasan [Abu al-Sa'id], member of the Fatah Central Committee and chairman of the PNC Foreign Relations Committee, has affirmed that the PNC will convene soon and that the necessary quorum exists to convene.

In a statement to the Tunisian newspaper *AL-SABAH*, Al-Hasan said that those attending the PNC session will thus express their faith in the independence of Palestinian decision-making. He added that those not attending the session will be either directly or indirectly announcing that they cannot free themselves from the subservience and pressures imposed on them by a certain Arab regime. Al-Hasan noted that there is a conspiracy against the PLO to annul its role as the representative of the Palestinian people and make it subservient to the will of certain Arab regimes.

Burj al-Barajinah Camp Tense After Clashes
JN231859 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Violent clashes erupted in the Burj al-Barajinah Camp in West Beirut yesterday, after agent elements fired on a crowd of our Palestinian masses in the camp. This led to the eruption of armed clashes between our people's sons and the criminal agent elements. Six citizens were martyred, and 24 others were wounded.

The camp's dignitaries today quickly moved to contain the clashes, and to prevent the agents and criminal gangs from escalating these clashes aimed at splitting our people's unity and their support for the PLO and its revolutionary legitimacy inside the camp. The dignitaries' moves included visiting Salim al-Huss and Nabih Birri and appealing to them to intervene in order to contain and end the clashes.

However, a tense atmosphere prevails in the camp, as does a feeling of anger among our people there against the agent and criminal groups. We appeal to the masses of our people in the camp to be more alert and cautious, so that the road is blocked to all the agents and traitors who try to encroach on our people's unity and their stands against all the attempts to split this unity, as well as to those who try to encroach on our people's stands against the designs aimed at liquidating the PLO and destroying its legitimate framework and institutions.

Two Israelis Killed Near Bayt Jala in West Bank
JN231743 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Our revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland are further escalating their heroic operations against Zionist occupation by implementing the revolution leadership's directives and decisions to escalate armed struggle in the main arena of struggle. Our hero revolutionaries are further continuing their daring operations, despite the strict military measures the Zionist occupation authorities are taking in order to eliminate our revolutionaries' operations.

Our revolutionaries attacked a group of Zionist terrorists in the Bayt Jala area of the West Bank yesterday. Two Zionist terrorists were killed and several others were wounded in the attack. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation. He said that his forces immediately besieged the Al-Duhayshah Camp and waged large-scale search and arrest campaigns.

Resistance Operations in South Lebanon Reported
JN231804 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] A group of Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men attacked a Zionist military vehicle while it was passing near the Al-Sarafand area in occupied southern Lebanon. Using machine guns in their attack, the resistance men killed or wounded several enemy soldiers. Reports from southern Lebanon said that the enemy soldiers who were subjected to the attack fired indiscriminately on the Lebanese citizens in the area and injured three citizens. The invasion forces waged an arrest campaign against the Lebanese and Palestinian citizens in the area on the pretext of their links to the operation.

The hero resistance men detonated an explosive charge under a Zionist military patrol near Marj 'Uyun. One vehicle was destroyed and all its occupants were either killed or injured.

Yamani Expects Oil Prices To Reach OPEC Level

LD241355 Kuwait KUNA in English 1218 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Geneva, Oct 24 (KUNA) — Oil ministers from Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and Mexico flew to Lagos Wednesday for talks on Nigeria's decision last week to cut its oil price by two dollars a barrel. Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani left Geneva with Venezuelan Energy Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti and Mexico's Energy Secretary Francisco Labastida Ochoa.

Their visit to Lagos was seen as an attempt to persuade Nigeria to cancel its two-dollar reduction and return to OPEC's agreed prices. Nigeria did not attend the talks here Monday and Tuesday between six OPEC ministers and Mexico and Egypt, which resulted in an agreement to cut production in order to defend prices.

All 13 OPEC members will decide by how much to lower the organisation's production ceiling and individual quotas at an emergency conference starting here next Monday.

Yamani, as he left the Geneva hotel, said the meeting would bring oil prices up to the official OPEC level. "I am very confident that very soon you will see the price of oil going up to the OPEC official level," he told newsmen.

However, he was more worried that later on prices would rise even higher.

"What I am worried about is not to see the price staying as it is, but to see it going above the official price...and then we in OPEC must meet to correct that situation," he said.

Asked about the latest pressure on OPEC prices by the international oil company Mobil, Yamani said: "I think we want to explain to them what happened."

Mobil, which gets much of its oil from Saudi Arabia, announced Tuesday it was cutting the price it pays for the major United States blend of oil by $1.75 a barrel.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Military Exercises Conclude With Ceremony

LD231521 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The Peninsula Shield II exercises, in which forces of GCC states took part, ended this morning with a ceremonial meeting under the patronage of the deputy defense and aviation minister, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The meeting began with a Koran reading. Chief of the General Staff, Staff General Muhammad al-Hammad delivered a speech in which he talked about the Peninsula Shield II exercises which embodied the highest stages of cooperation among the GCC states. He stressed that the march of GCC cooperation in various political, economic, and military spheres was a guide and support to the march of the Islamic nation which loves peace and hates aggression. Staff General al-Hammad praised the GCC states armed forces and the high level of training and discipline they have achieved. He also praised the major efforts made by the commander of the land forces and his assistants in implementing the exercises so well. He prayed to God to protect the GCC leaders and protect the states' stability and security.

Deputy Defense Minister 'Satisfied' With GCC Exercises

LD231349 Riyadh SPA in English 1324 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Hafr al-Batin, Saudi Arabia, Oct 23, SPA — Prince 'Abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy defence and aviation minister, has expressed happiness for the standards realised by the GCC armed forces, which are using the most modern and sophisticated weapons and military hardware.

In a press statement, published today, he said the Saudi Armed Forces were ready to play its role in all circumstances or whenever the need arises. Prince 'Abd al-Rahman added that the Saudi Armed Forces are prepared not only to defend the Kingdom, but also to protect the Arab and Islamic vital interests.

He said Saudi military schools and colleges are open for all sons of Arab and Islamic countries to get benefit from these institutions sophisticated training programmes and expertise. Prince 'Abd al-Rahman urged the Saudi youth to join the armed forces' various branches and said high standards of Saudi military institutions could benefit them in defending the country. "The Kingdom is keen to train Saudi cadres in the use of modern weapons before their import to the country," he said.

He expressed satisfaction with the well-prepared arrangements made before the start of the military exercises and that these preparations had enabled the exercises to realise a full success.

BAHRAIN

Briefs

Ambassadors Appointed — Manama, 20 Oct (WAKH) — His Highness Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah issued four decrees today appointing extraordinary ambassadors and plenipotentiaries. The decrees appointed 'Isa Muhammad al-Jami', adviser at the Foreign Ministry, as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. 'Abd al-Rahman Salman Kamal, adviser at the Foreign Ministry, was appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Iraq. The third decree appointed Salman 'Abd al-Wahab al-Sabbagh, plenipotentiary minister at the Foreign Ministry, as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the United Kingdom. The fourth decree appointed Ghazi Muhammad al-Qusaybi, ambassador at the Foreign Ministry, as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the United States. [Text] [*Manama WAKH in Arabic 1045 GMT 20 Oct 84 GF*]

KUWAIT

Defense Minister Meets Soviet Ambassador

GF231136 Doha QNA in Arabic 0805 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Oct (QNA) — Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim Sabah al-Salim has reiterated that the GCC countries uphold the principle of self-protection with the aim of preventing any foreign power from interfering in the affairs of the region.

In a statement published today by the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS* following his meeting yesterday with Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait Pogos Semenovich Akopov, he stressed to the ambassador the eagerness of Kuwait to diversify its sources of weapons for the Kuwaiti Army in order to avoid extortion that might be used by some countries for political reasons. During this meeting, they discussed issues pertaining to the agreements and contracts signed between Kuwait and Moscow in order to provide the Army, particularly the Air Defense Forces, with modern equipment and weaponry commensurate with Kuwait's strategy — which deals with modernizing the military.

Brazilian Military Official Discusses Arms Sales

LD232252 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1602 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Oct (KUNA) — The chairman of the board of directors of the Brazilian organizations for military industry, Jose Albuquerque, arrived here this evening at the head of a military delegation on a 3-day official visit during which he will discuss the possibilities of military cooperation between Kuwait and Brazil. He was received at the airport by the acting assistant under secretary for equipment and finance at the Ministry of Defense, Mr Faysal al-Dawud, and a number of senior Army officers.

A responsible source at the Ministry of Defense told KUNA that the visit is aimed at informing Kuwait about the various arms and ammunition produced by Brazil. The source said that the visit by the Brazilian delegation "comes within the framework of the Kuwaiti Army's plan to develop and consolidate its sections with the most advanced weapons and equipment."

The delegation is expected to confer with Minister of Defense Shaykh Salim al-Sabah; Chief of the General Staff Major General 'Abdallah 'Farraj al-Ghanim; Under Secretary of the Ministry of Defense 'Abd al-Razzaq Khumays; and the assistant Under Secretary Faysal al-Dawud.

Amir, Premier Address Opening of National Assembly
LD231517 Kuwait KUNA in English 1004 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 23 (KUNA) — H.H. the amir Tuesday inaugurated the fifth ordinary session of the National Assembly's fifth legislative term after a summer recess which lasted for over three months. The opening session, held this morning, was attended by the visiting Dutch prime minister, members of his accompanying delegation and by the heads of Arab and foreign diplomatic missions in Kuwait.

Declaring the session formally opened, H.H. the amir commended Kuwait's spirit of mutual accommodation, cohesion and the ability to overcome obstacles. Such spirit, his highness indicated, has revealed itself in the close coordination between the state's legislative and executive machinery as well as in the Kuwaiti judiciary with its established genuine traditions and the communal life led by both Kuwaitis and expatriates.

The amir vowed that "Kuwait will continue to uphold right, despite overt and covert aggression against its people, and champion to call for unity, solidarity and renunciation of blood-letting in our Arab and Moslem area as well as the cause of restoring our usurped land and holy Jerusalem." The amir reminded, in his short inaugural address, of the Kuwaiti people's will and determination to build a state, and pledged that Kuwaitis are fully aware how to defend their country, protect their interests and continue their advance.

His highness urged in conclusion the Kuwaiti youth to keep the country as an inspiring hope for future generations by striving for good and welfare of its people and by demonstrating close cooperation and unity.

At the end of the amir's speech, H.H. the crown prince and premier, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah delivered the government's policy statement which reviewed past achievements and outlined future measures.

At the foreign level, Shaykh Sa'd said Kuwait continues, along with other Arab and Moslem countries, to follow exerted efforts aimed at halting bloodshed in Lebanon, occupied Palestine as well as on the front of "the futile conflict" between Iraq and Iran. He added that Kuwait was also following the situation in the Moslem state of Afghanistan where, the premier stressed, "freedom and stability should prevail."

Shaykh Sa'd further commended the vigorous activities made during last year to tighten bonds among countries of the GCC and singled out, in particular, the marked cooperation in the field of defense, represented by the several joint land and air exercises staged by armies of the member-states. In this context, the crown prince and premier repeated Kuwait's determination that defense of the Arabian Gulf region should be the exclusive responsibility of its states, away from any superpower conflict, intervention and scramble for expanding their sphere of influence.

Shaykh Sa'd also indicated to efforts for closer Gulf cooperation in the various economic and political spheres and for implementation of already concluded agreements, and pointed that to explore new vistas for coordination, Kuwait will host towards the end of next November the fifth GCC summit, "on which we pin great hopes, particularly at the crucial and delicate stage passed by our nation and area," the premier said.

On the Gulf conflict, the government's top executive underlined that Kuwait will continue, along with its GCC partners, efforts for halting the Iraq-Iran war, despite previous failure of mediation attempts, and recalled Iraq's responsive stance of complete readiness for a settlement which will ensure the interests and dignity of the two warring parties.

Shaykh Sa'd pointed to the recent escalation in the Iran-Iraq war, with its destructive impact felt by states which are not party to the conflict, and the eventual existing threats posed to the Arab Gulf states' interests and security. The premier repeated, in this respect, Kuwait's unlimited preparedness to exert every effort for ending this war and pledged, in the meantime, complete readiness to defend its sovereignty and interests against any outside threat or attack. Shaykh Sa'd further reiterated Kuwait's consistent foreign policy of full respect to the independent national will, safeguarding national rights and the establishment of non-aligned balanced relations.

On the home front, the policy statement emphasized that the issue of maintaining a strong national economy and activating its movement will remain the government's major concern over the next stage. It indicated that the government will strive to contain the aftermath left behind by the crisis in the stock exchange so that the economic process can be resumed in a spirit of mutual trust and confidence in the future.

The statement indicated to the government's recent decision setting up an expanded committee with the aim of studying and recommending on ways to invigorate the national economy, particularly in the banking and financial fields as well as the real estate and contracting sectors.

It noted that development of the country's natural wealth necessitated increased work and production as well as rationalisation of spending and consumption habits and emphasized that the government will adopt over the next stage an active policy for developing the local industry and agriculture.

Pledging tightened government spending, the crown prince and premier spoke on the plan, announced recently, to raise the efficiency of the state machinery and to reform its administrative branch. Shaykh Sa'd pledged that the aspired reform will maintain the delicate balance between the collective interest of the state as well as the individual rights of employees and their contractual and social guarantees. In this respect, he ruled out any hasty decision by the government and assured that administrative reform will be kept above political auctioneering and narrow individual interests.

The premier also promised that recommendations by the experts committee to this end will be carried out by the government without delay and reiterated that the reform movement will extend to all administrative posts, without exception, where it will be applied with precision and decisiveness.

Shaykh Said concluded his government's policy statement by noting that though the present assembly session will be short, joint effort and cooperation between the legislative and executive bodies promise bountiful achievements.

In reply to the Amir's inaugural speech, the National Assembly speaker Mohammed Yusuf al-Adsani said, "On this occasion we reiterate to your highness that the legislative authority, embodied in this Assembly, will perform in one line with the executive authority and to execute whatever is in favor of the public interest."

Al-Adsani added that the National Assembly members consider their membership an honor by itself since it is actually an enrollment in one of the most active fields of (?duty) and a cumbersome responsibility to be shouldered. "This positive sense of responsibility, however, is one of the Kuwaitis' traits which your highness can count on while leading the march, overcoming obstacles and planting the seeds of goodness everywhere."

He remarked that "the country does not consist of the legislative and the executive authorities alone since the country is owned by its people." Al-Adsani elaborated by saying "every problem that faces Kuwait should be overcome by every citizen with as much power and potential he possesses. That is what our religion has taught us and what we have been accustomed to do in our history. Following that course is a responsibility to be carried out by the legislative authority, the executive authority, the press, special interest societies, and every citizen no matter what his position is."

Al-Adsani concluded by saying, "Your Highness, the Kuwaitis who have pledged their allegience to you, are vowing through this assembly to remain loyal soldiers, and not to save an effort that would lead to the development of the country, the nation and the belief under your leadership and by your commands."

Before the assembly went into session, H.H. the amir left the assembly's hall and was seen off by H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah and the speaker.

In its first session, the assembly re-elected Sayah Abu Shaiba as secretary, and Falah al-Hajraf as controller. Permanent and temporary parliamentary committees' members were returned unopposed.

Cabinet Approves New Economic Committee

LD211552 Kuwait KUNA in English 1319 GMT 21 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Kuwait, Oct 21 (KUNA) — The Cabinet approved Sunday the formation of a specialized committee that will conduct studies on means to reactivate the domestic economy.

A statement by Cabinet's Secretary General 'Abd al-'Aziz al-'Utaybi explained that the committee's main task will concentrate on reassessing the economic and financial activities in general, and the situation in the banking sector, the stock exchange, the real estate market and contracting fields in particular. He added that the committee will also conduct studies on means to revive the economic activity and ways to remove hinderances on the way of such improvements.

In the session which was presided over by H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, the Cabinet was briefed by Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad on the outcome of his talks with U.S. secretary of state in New York, and results of his meetings with the French president and British foreign secretary. He also reported the outcome of his participation in the Security Council session.

PLO's Yasir 'Arafat Arrives for Visit 24 Oct

LD240734 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0715 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Kuwait 24 Oct (KUNA) — Yasir 'Arafat, head of the PLO, arrived here today at dawn from Jeddah for a visit. He is currently touring a number of Arab countries.

QATAR

Kuwaiti Official Delivers Invitation for GCC Summit

GF240838 Doha QNA in Arabic 0752 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Doha, 24 Oct (WAKH) — Mr 'Abd al-Rahman al-'Atiqi, the Kuwaiti amir's adviser, arrived in Doha this morning for a brief visit to the State of Qatar that will last several hours. He was received upon his arrival by Mr 'Abdallah Nasir al-Suwaydi, Qatari minister of communication and transport. The Kuwaiti official's visit to the State of Qatar comes within his tour of the GCC countries to deliver to their leaders invitations to attend the GCC's fifth summit which will be held in Kuwait in November.

Military Officials Return From GCC Exercises

GF240600 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0515 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Doha, 23 Oct (WAKH) — Staff Colonel Shaykh Mubarak ibn 'Abd al-Rahman Al Thani, chief of the General Staff of the Qatari Armed Forces, returned to Doha this evening from Riyadh after attending the ceremony marking the conclusion of the final phase of the Peninsula Shield II exercises which took place at Hafr al-Batin northeast of Riyadh. Returning with Col Mubarak was his accompanying military delegation which includes Staff Lieutenant Colonel Shaykh Muhammad ibn Sa'ud Al Thani, head of military operations, planning, and organization; and a number of senior Qatari Armed Forces officers.

The Peninsula Shield II maneuvers ende today in the presence of the GCC chiefs of the General Staff and GCC Secretary General Mr 'Abdallah Bisharah.

Newspapers Hail Results of GCC Maneuvers

GF240944 Doha QNA in Arabic 0655 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Excerpts] Doha, 24 Oct (QNA) — Qatari newspapers today hail the accomplishments and successes achieved by the Peninsula Shield II maneuvers which concluded in Saudi Arabia yesterday with the participation of various military units from the armies of the GCC states.

The Qatari newspaper *AL-'ARAB* explained in its editorial today that the outcome of these maneuvers confirm the ability of the GCC armies to achieve continuing successes and deepen the extent of coordination among them in various military fields. The paper concluded its editorial by expressing pride in what was achieved in these maneuvers, pointing out the necessity of continuing the steps along this path because of the inherent benefits for the peoples and countries of the region.

The newspaper *AL-RAYAH* stressed that the Peninsula Shield II exercises reflected very clearly the anxiousness of the GCC states to translate all the hopes and aspirations felt by the GCC citizens into tangible reality through continuing work and effort.

The Qatari English-language *GULF TIMES* highlighted the importance of the Peninsula Shield II maneuvers and stressed that it is evident from the realistic assessment of their results that the maneuvers achieved marked progress on the level of military coordination among the forces of the GCC states. The paper said that on the basis that self-defense is every country's right, seeking to implement this right is a only natural. This is what the GCC states have sought to do, whether by arming their forces with the most modern weapons or by holding joint exercises and maneuvers among their forces such as those of the Peninsula Shield II. The paper concluded its editorial by pointing out that maintaining peace and justice, which are objectives sought by all, cannot be achieved without possessing a force capable of achieving and preserving them.

SAUDI ARABIA

Libya's Al-Turayki Discusses ICO, Muslim Issues

LD231847 Riyadh SPA in English 1255 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Jeddah, Oct 23, SPA — The visiting Libyan Secretary of Foreign Liaison Dr 'Ali al-Turayki left here today for Medina to visit the Prophet Muhammad's mosque in the holy city.

Earlier, he had talks with ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti on Libya's contribution to the ICO's activities and bilateral relations. The talks also covered current Islamic issues and the situation of Muslim minorities, particularly in Philippines and the need to convene a meeting of four-member ministerial committee of the ICO, which had been delegated to discuss the issue of Muslim minorities, prior to the forthcoming Islamic foreign ministers conference due to begin in Sanaa on December 18.

YAR Oil Company Chief Brings Salih Message to Fahd

LD231912 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1537 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 23 Oct (SPA) — The YAR Minister of State and Chairman of the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Corporation 'Ali al-Bahr left Jeddah today after a visit to the Kingdom during which he handed a message to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz from YAR President, Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

Kuwaiti Official Brings Amir Message for Fahd

LD232315 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1705 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Jeddah, 23 Oct (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received a message from his brother the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. His majesty received the message in the course of his audience this evening with the adviser to the amir of Kuwait, 'Abd al-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi, in the presence of the Kuwaiti ambassador to the Kingdom, Sa'ud al-'Athaymi. Mr 'Atiqi arrived in Jeddah earlier today from Manama on a visit to the Kingdom within his tour of the GCC countries.

PLO's Yasir 'Arafat Received by King Fahd

LD232031 Riyadh SPA in English 1950 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Jeddah, Oct 23, SPA — HM King Fahd received here tonight the PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The royal audience was attended by Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir and Rafiq al-Natshah, representative of Fatah movement in the Kingdom.

Departs Jeddah After Visit

LD232302 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2230 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Jeddah, 23 Oct (SPA) — Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, left Jeddah tonight after a 1-day visit to the Kingdom. He was seen off at King 'Abd al-'Aziz airport by a number of officials.

UAE

Further Newspaper Commentaries on Oil Price Increase

AL-WAHDAH on OPEC Importance

GF231816 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0740 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi 23 Oct (WAM) — The UAE newspaper *AL-WAHDAH* has called on all oil-producing countries to unite in order to preserve the entity of OPEC in confronting the current crisis and to deal wisely with the grave situation confronting the international oil market.

The paper's editorial today that OPEC oil ministers "are making sincere efforts to reach solutions that will ensure the cohesion of OPEC vis-a-vis the grave threats posed by the decision adopted by Nigeria, Norway, and Britain to reduce the price of their oil." The paper went on to say that the preservation of the ceiling of

p.oduction and price level is basically the responsibility of the OPEC countries, yet it is also the responsibility of other oil-producing and non-OPEC countries "because any collapse in price implies the outbreak of a genuine war that would threaten the international oil market. This also would inflict further damage on the international economy in general. From this premise, the two sides must reach an agreement with regard to finding a way out of the current crisis which might have long-lasting effects."

The paper went on to say that the issue of reducing prices or increasing production is dangerous because this would create a glut on the international oil market, thus threatening the economy of a number of countries, particularly the developing countries whose economies have been exhausted by foreign debts and high interest rates. This "also would imply turning the bases of the international economy upside down." *AL-WAHDAH* pointed out that the continuation of these hazards would constitute an international plot "designed to devastate the economies of the developing countries because OPEC is their basic backer."

AL-ITTIHAD, AL-BAYAN Urge Unity

GF240934 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0556 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 24 Oct (WAM) — The newspapers *AL-ITTIHAD* and *AL-BAYAN* have warned against the conspiracy of the Western countries against OPEC and called for pursuing a unified strategy in order to face this conspiracy.

AL-ITTIHAD described what OPEC was subjected to last week as nothing but "cheap blackmail within the context of a plot aimed to demolish the foundations of this international organization which has sacrificed much for the sake of the world's economy." At the conclusion of its editorial, the paper called on OPEC members to stand by each other as if they were the crew of one ship and to coordinate with other nonmember countries and learn from this lesson.

The newspaper *AL-BAYAN* which is published in Dubayy, called on OPEC to give serious consideration to the implications of the present crisis and the nature of its real goals. The paper concluded its editorial with the statement that if a huge reduction in production is the only practical solution to protect prices, then it is necessary "to agree to a long-term strategy to protect OPEC's role in the petroleum market."

Police Arrest Infiltrators in Umm al-Qaywayn

GF190926 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 17 Oct 84 p 1

[Text] Umm al-Qaywayn police have arrested 12 infiltrators in the region of Khawr al-Baydah in Umm al-Qaywayn. They arrived in two launches. An investigation is being conducted pending their presentation to the court.

PDRY

Briefs

New Ambassador to PRC — Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received today Brother Ibrahim 'Abdallah al-Sa'idi before his departure to Beijing to assume his post as PDRY ambassador to the PRC. [Excerpt] [*Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 Oct 84 GF*]

New Envoy to GDR — 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has issued a decree appointing 'Abd al-Wakil Isma'il al-Sharuri as PDRY ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the GDR. [Summary] [*Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Oct 84 GF*]

YAR

President Approves YAR-USSR Friendship Treaty

GF231852 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The following law was issued today: Law No 14 for 1984 regarding the friendship and cooperation treaty between the Government of the YAR and the Government of the USSR: In the name of the people, the president of the Republic, after reviewing the permanent Constitution, the constitutional declaration on 6 February 1978 on the formation of the People's Constituent Council, the amendment of the constitutional declaration on 17 April 1978, the constitutional declaration on 22 April 1978 approving the decision of the People's Constituent Council on the determination of the system of the state presidency and its authorities and duration, the constitutional declaration on 8 May 1979 on the amendments to some of the previous constitutional provisions related to the People's Council and to the distribution of its authorities and the increase of its members, and after the consent of the Council of Ministers and the People's Constituent Council, approved the following law, which we have ratified and issued:

Article 1: The friendship and cooperation treaty dated 9 October 1984 and signed between the Government of the YAR and the Government of the USSR has been approved.

Article 2: This law shall be enacted from the date of its issuance and shall be promulgated in the official gazette.

[Signed] At the Republican Palace in Sanaa on 28 Muharam 1405 Hejira, corresponding to 23 October 1984; Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress.

DFLP's Hawatimah Arrives in Sanaa 23 Oct

GF240448 Doha QNA in Arabic 2015 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Sanaa, 23 Oct (QNA) — Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, arrived in Sanaa this evening on a visit to the YAR that will last several days. During the visit Hawatimah will hold talks with Yemeni officials on Arab issues and current events in the Palestinian arena.

Briefs

Unity Minister Appointed — President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih issued a decree today appointing Yahya Husayn al-'Arshi minister of state for the affairs of Yemeni unity. [Summary] [*Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Oct 84 GF*]

Somali Ambassador Presents Credentials — Foreign Minister Dr Ahmad al-Asbahi today received Hosni Mohammed, Somali ambassador, who delivered a copy of his credentials. [Summary] [*Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Oct 84 GF*]

Kuwait's AL-SIYASAH Interviews President Mubarak

GF221954 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 18 Oct 84 pp 8, 9

[Interview with President Husni Mubarak by Ahmad al-Jarallah, chief editor of *AL-SIYASAH*, in Cairo — date not given]

[Text] Despite his many preoccupations, President Mubarak was relaxed and in a good mood. Perhaps he feels that Egypt no longer plays that tense role of absorbing shock — shocks that increase whenever Egypt's reactions increase. Nothing has changed in the home of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak since I saw it last, except that more telephones have been installed, in the garden and at the main gate. Perhaps some of these telephones have to do with security. On the top floor of his house some rooms have been added. Perhaps they are for his secretary or for his office.

The interview lasted a full 2 hours. It was attended by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif and Mamduh al-Baltaji, chairman of the Information Authority. After a discussion not for publication, between the president of an important Arab country and an Arab journalist searching for the truth, there was the following dialogue which is for publication:

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, you seem to be happy with the results of your recent visit to Jordan.

Mubarak: Yes, I am very pleased and happy, not because the Arabs know the truth about Egyptian policy — for our principles have not changed — but because I feel that Jordan's return is a rectification of the mistaken concepts that exist in the Arab world. It seems that there are leaders who are not farsighted or who are satellite powers that seek to drain the Arab world of its strength, a strength that can be achieved only by the solidarity of the Arab world. The situation is very tragic; our Arab world is fragmented, and every time we say that we have missed an opportunity nobody listens. Certainly those who are responsible for the fragmentation of the Arab world must be the satellites of powers that want the Arab nation to be in greater disarray. Otherwise, what is the meaning of what is happening now? Jordan has restored its relations with Egypt and I am happy about it. Perhaps Jordan's actions will spur others to put an end to the present tragic situation.

Al-Jarallah: Is there anyone who believes that Jordan will face troubles as a result of restoring relations with you?

Mubarak: Trouble with whom? From those who are accustomed to exaggerating imaginery issues? It was said here in Egypt — in the climate of democracy that exists here — that the visit is a result of an Israeli-Egyptian-U.S. arrangement. We do not respond to such criticism, based on illusions. They applauded the restoration of Egyptian-Soviet relations and said it was a good thing — but [for them] the restoration of relations with Jordan is part of a strategy to plot and scheme, as if it is they who are the patriots, not us.

Relations with Jordan have been restored, and the sources of trouble for Jordan and Egypt are the same, and will continue to be there whether relations between the two countries exist or not. Those who export troubles have certificates justifying the export of troubles, but we are accustomed to them and we will bear these troubles and say to them: May God forgive you, for you have harmed the entire Arab nation.

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, there are those who talk about secret agreements between you and Jordan on the Palestinian question?

Mubarak: We do not have secret agreements, and there is no secret in policies between countries. If we had wanted to interfere in Palestinian affairs we would have interfered through the Camp David Accords, one of whose clauses deals with the Palestinian question. We have not interfered and we will not interfere. I want to assure everyone that we do not have any secret agreements or strategies with King Husayn — or anything else mentioned in the political analyses disseminated by those who do not want relations restored between Jordan and Egypt. Our talks concentrated on joint Arab action that would be acceptable internationally, so that no one will try to exploit the situation and harm the Arab image by portraying the Arabs as pursuing a policy of exporting troubles to the world. I had a view which I put to King Husayn, namely on how to deal with the great powers and the balances of such cooperation.

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, did you visit Iraq or meet with President Saddam Husayn on the [Jordanian-Iraqi] border — according to what is being said?

Mubarak: Our relations with Iraq are good, and if it had not been for President Saddam Husayn's preoccupations, I would have visited Iraq and such a visit would not be a secret. I would announce it openly. How can a head of state visit another head of state secretly? Does not such a visit require preparations? Do you believe that if such a visit did take place it would remain secret? My visit was confined to Jordan and I have lived their situation; a situation we must appreciate, for they are standing fast in the face of what is around them, and that in itself is sufficient.

Al-Jarallah: Your Excellency, Mr President, some people in the Arab world believe somewhat that it is a pity that relations be restored with Egypt which has relations with Israel, while the Arabs see a country like Spain refusing to exchange diplomatic representation with Israel.

Mubarak: What we want is for the Arabs to agree on a better atmosphere of understanding among themselves, to have a common ideology, and for each party to move within its own sphere. Relations existing between Egypt and Israel could be used in favor of numerous issues to serve the ideology agreed upon. We used these relations to ensure the departure of the Palestinians from Lebanon when their ships were exposed to destruction. We also used these relations for many issues. But to say that Spain does not maintain relations with Israel and to adopt this principle and then call on the Arab countries to sever relations with all the countries maintaining relations with Israel is something about which we have a question — Why Egypt alone? If this view stems from a nationalistic concept, then we believe that what we are practicing is nationalistic work and that Egypt is no less an Arab country than any other. Not only that, but in this regard we find ourselves the most enthusiastic to the issues of our Arab nation.

If the matter concerns contacts with Israel, then we shall remind them of what His Majesty Moroccan King Hasan II said when they attacked him for hosting the Jewish conference in his country. He said that he has a file full of documents of secret contacts between Israel and regimes which know nothing other than tofill the Arab policy market with slogans which I understand only as illusory issues.

Frankly speaking, they contact Israel through the back door and come out the front door to give us lessons in patriotism and on what we should do. Please convey in my name that time is hurting us and that the Arab world is not in need of further quarrels. Our wealth is wasted and we are threatened with further partition owing to devilish plans in our Arab world. We are treating these plans in a friendly way as if our fate is in their hands. We know that what they are doing is wrong but continue to pat their shoulders. We have to wake up from this cursed agony. Some felt that the restoration of relations between Egypt and Jordan was the beginning of their isolation and represented such a threat to them that they went to knock on the doors of the major powers. They do all this as if we are living in the reign of the Andalusite princes who used foreign countries to show hostility against each other until their rule vanished.

Al-Jarallah: Your Excellency, Mr President, what are the results of the Red Sea mining investigations?

Mubarak: All indications point to Libya. The mines were planted after the ship *Ghat* passed through the sea. It was stated that the culprit could be one of the major powers or Iran. But none of these have any interest in such action, which would result in preventing their ships from crossing the canal and from pursuing their commercial interests. They are not so stupid as to jeopardize their own interests. Even Iran uses the canal in some way and has no interest in doing something like that. I have made sure of this myself. I shall not conceal the fact that I was glad Iran was not involved; but Libya, which had previously attempted to blow up a ship inside the canal, is involved. I must say here that any other acts like this, which jeopardize our routes, means that Libya will have to bear the consequences, which will be severe. We respect Libya's routes and it must respect ours. As we do not interfere in its affairs and national security, it must reciprocate in the same manner, otherwise next time things will be different and how we handle such issues will also be different.

Al-Jarallah: Your Excellency, Mr President, do you think that it is time for the restoration of relations between Egypt and the Arab world?

Mubarak: Yes, it is time. I know that the moderate regimes respect Jordan's decision to restore relations with Egypt. Moreover, I have good relations with the men of these regimes whom I knew when I was vice president. I also know that they now agree with me, that military force and wars are not means for settling the issues of our Arab nation. Even those playing the songs of war for recovering Palestine told us that war is not the best solution to the Arab nation's issues. We have fought here four wars which were all relapses, but through negotiations we got better results. Even wars end in negotiations, otherwise there would be no peace. We have recovered Sinai and the canal and gained the respect of the world by maintaining our charters and commitments. Even the aid offered to Egypt is no longer offered in the form of debts. Egypt now is an active international party enjoying the respect of the world. Time is suitable now for restoring relations with Egypt. They left Egypt and took the Arab League from it and now the questions are: Where is the role of the Arab League? What is its activity? What has it done about the numerous Arab problems and differences?

We are not desirous of having a league and we do not want to enter it, but we want a unified Arab world and we want a unified ideology; we do not want the Arab world to remain a toy in the hands of the troublemakers.

Al-Jarallah: Your Excellency, I would like to return to the subject of the Red Sea and ask why Libya is accused and what its interests are.

Mubarak: Libya thinks we will submit to terror if it continues putting pressure on us. Libya's terror is accompanied by lucrative financial offers. They have offered us, through people who have relations with Libya, $5 billion in return for resuming relations with them. We told them no; this sum does not mean much to us. We adhere to charters and agreements. They think by mining the Suez Canal or causing a ship to explode in it they might disturb the Egyptian economic situation, forcing Egypt to ask them for help — which has not happened.

Al-Jarallah: Your Excellency, there are people who say that developed countries have an interest in mining the Suez Canal, as this would mean that oil-related navigation in the Gulf would be hindered, making it easy for Mexico and Brazil to sell their oil at fantastic prices; thus they would be able to pay back their debts to U.S. banks.

Mubarak: There are many eloquent people and analysts of international strategies around. We have many of them in Egypt. We listen to what they have to say, in a democratic manner. However, we laugh at their philosophies and speculations. Just as they interpreted my visit to Jordan as an Israeli-U.S.-Egyptian-Jordanian plot, they interpret the Red Sea mining as having been carried out for oil interests. We are afraid that these people might discover that diamond merchants were behind mining the Canal. It is only talk and there is no harm in listening to it.

Al-Jarallah: Your Excellency, what is the latest situation with regard to your mediation on the Gulf war?

Mubarak: There is nothing new with our attempts toward ending this war. However, we have not reached any conclusions. This is a costly war for both Iraq and Iran. Under no circumstances can there be a winner. We were hoping Iran would respond to our attempts the way Iraq has. The only profiteers in this war are foreign arms traders — taking advantage of the Iraqi and Iranian people's national resources. We ask God that Iran will respond to common sense and logic.

All indications show that losses are suffered by both sides and are accumulating. I think Iran is finally conscious of these calculations. As I said, both sides are losers. In the meantime we will continue our mediation efforts and hope we reach our goal,

the restoration of friendly relations between one Muslim country and another Muslim and Arab country.

Al-Jarallah: Your Excellency, how do you view the Libyan-Moroccan unity?

Mubarak: Following this unity, King Hasan II indicated he would send an envoy to me to explain the dimensions of this unity. However, this envoy has not yet arrived in Cairo. We have a unity [with Libya] which is no more than ink on paper. The question is — is this unity in the interest of the Arabs? If it is, then all well and good; this is what we are seeking. Unity, in our opinion, should tie our peoples and our interests first, to be followed by political unity. The talk of unity has bored us. However, let the others try. To us this unity is mere ink on paper. I think others might also discover it to be so.

Al-Jarallah: Your Excellency, how do you view the formation of the new Israeli Government?

Mubarak: I believe it is lenient compared to its predecessor. The new Israeli premier has asked me to meet him. My reply was: Our meeting must be preceded by positive developments producing tangible and specific results. It will not be useful to drink coffee or tea and then bid each other farewell in a formal atmosphere distinguished by protocol rather than results. When Israel moves positively, there will be no objection to a meeting. Anything other than that would be a waste of time.

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, I see that the honeymoon between you and Sudan is still continuing, although there is a lot of talk about differences between Sudan and Egypt.

Mubarak: President Numayri visits Egypt and we welcome him. The talk about differences is the talk of those living under illusions. We are independent countries and our cooperation is known. Sudan has announced a format for its regime. Almost 98 percent of our rules stem from the Islamic shari'a and are based on this guidance, while according to us the amendment of the rest of the rules require many measures. We respect the course of Sudan's internal affairs as it respects ours. We have heard talk about differences, but these are not known to us.

Al-Jarallah: Your Excellency, why was the meeting of the Red Sea countries suddenly postponed?

Mubarak: We supported this meeting and we did believe that it was necessary. However, we did not announce our approval until after three countries, among them Saudi Arabia, announced theirs. Suddenly, those countries who do not overlook the Red Sea suspended this meeting. It seems that they were afraid Egypt would have a role or that this meeting would show its proper role. We say once again that God will forgive them and that Egypt's role will not be affected by a meeting which was not held. Anyway, the pains in the Arab world's policy are many but they do not affect us or affect our role. Egypt is the big brother of the Arab world and will remain so.

Al-Jarallah: Your Excellency, where is the Lebanese problem heading?

Mubarak: Israel wants to secure its northern borders. I believe they are serious about withdrawal if they are reassured. As for Lebanon's internal problems, the right solution is to leave it to its people to achieve stability. However, if they continue as they are, then my view on the solution to Lebanon's problems is not a clear one.

Al-Jarallah: Your Excellency, it is said that the PLO has lost its glitter.

Mubarak: It might actually lose its glitter if its bones continue to decay. Since February, the PNC has been unable to agree on a place and date for its convocation and the reason for this is interference in the PLO's affairs. The PLO needs to unite and avoid separation. On whose behalf do these people interfere in Palestinian affairs? They are lying if they say that their interference against Palestinian unity is one of the key issues in the Arab homeland. What interest do they have in the dispersion or unification of the Palestinian forces?

Yes, the Palestinian work might lose its glitter if it does not rescue itself from those playing with its cards, a game which might not be in their favor but in the favor of other forces.

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, after the restoration of relations with the Soviets, did they resume the shipment of spare parts to you and did they stop interfering in your internal affairs?

Mubarak: The shipping of spare parts began before the restoration of relations, some of them to production factories. But regarding interference in our internal affairs, they know that equal relations create mutual respect. We have special relations with the United States, but this does not mean that we allow it to interfere in our internal affairs. Thus we deal with the international powers on the same standard when it comes to internal affairs.

Al-Jarallah: But Mr President, they say that the Americans have a presence at Ra's Banas base.

Mubarak: I want to answer your question practically. I will order a private plane to take you there so that you can see if there is a U.S. presence. Yes, we have very special relations with the United States, but this does not mean at all that it has a presence on our bases. (Note: I actually went there and did not find U.S. bases or a U.S. presence. I was told that the only foreign presence was of some Kuwaitis who come to hunt.)

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, the aid you received from the United States, is it in the form of loans or gratis aid? Why does the United States give more military aid to Israel than to you?

Mubarak: The aid which has been received is unconditional aid and not loans. This aid is the result of the special relations with the United States and within the minutes of the Camp David Accords. The aid provided to Egypt should be equal to that provided to Israel and if U.S. aid to Israel increases, then aid to Egypt will increase. Some of this aid goes to military supplies and some to finance production industries.

Al-Jaralilah: Your Excellency, let us talk about domestic affairs. We took too much of your time talking about international affairs. Your Excellency, your concerns are increasing. Is it due to the growing role of Egypt?

Mubarak: Egypt's role has not changed and for the Arab world we are the big brother, whether they accept or refuse it. I tell you that to achieve a better atmosphere I am ready to visit the Arab world myself. The important thing is that they will not be embarassed by my visit. I declare that I am ready to visit Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and all the moderate Arab countries. I do not need an official invitation if it is understood that Egypt's aim is to unite the Arab ranks; but are they ready for such a visit? Egypt has and always had a role. This is not new. However, recently it has proven that its principles are right. This is why its role has increased and why it is gaining the trust of the world as being a country that respects charters and international agreements.

Al-Jarailah: Your Excellency, what is the truth about Egypt's debts?

Mubarak: Egypt's debts do not exceed $3 billion. They are incurred for productive projects and will not be dead debts. All countries depend on a system of loans; even the big countries have debts in their trade balances. Egypt's debts are not that dreadful and in spite of the deficit in its balance of payments, Egypt's position is improving with regard to production and the improvement of its means. The past 3 years have witnessed many changes. Although not excellent, the situation is gradually improving. We adopted a 5-year plan and are implementing it in detail. Yes, we can improve it if we want, but we are continuing it and developing the production means because we do not want an economy for a period of 1 or 2 years. We do not want a political economy to satisfy the people for 1 or 2 years. We want a comprehensive improvement within a particular sector. Usually people are not patient, but they will be patient when you tell them the truth. Improvement is continuing but not at the maximum rate desired by the people who have gone through previous economic difficulties.

Al-Jarallah: Your Excellency, according to some economists the budget is small compared to the great problems.

Mubarak: The budget contains all our resources. However, we are currently financing many projects such as bridges, roads, sewers, railways, and telecommunication networks. These projects are not temporary improvements. We do not want that because our economy has ceased being a political economy to satisfy the people for a brief period. The financing operations for these installations are made on the basis that they will be good for the next 20 years. It is important now that when we say this project will end this year or that day, that it is actually completed on time. The revenues and expenditures of the budget are clearly declared.

Al-Jarallah: However, Your Excellency, people say that your economy does not have a certain color, that it is a mixture of a little bit of socialist public sector, a bit of openness, and a bit of discipline.

Mubarak: The private sector is totally encouraged and we will not stand against it. There will be no change from the policy of openness. We are aware that openness created some social differences but this is true in the economy of any country changing from one system to another. Through this change there will be marginal issues I can do nothing about or I will return to the current of social differences the government should, with all honesty, stay away from, not be a part of. We cannot do anything in an atmosphere of economic openness to protect social justice except the logical thing — impose taxes. If we succumb to social conflict, we will once again close the door to the development of the private sector. Before the openness there were rich people who hid their wealth abroad. They used to keep their wealth a secret to avoid attracting the attention of the government and nationalization.

However, now the rich individual is known publicly, which is better because it gives us the chance to deal with him logically instead of pushing him to run away. I am against conflict over social differences. Why should we shout in the face of those who have become rich? Why should we be sad when the plumber becomes a millionaire? Why don't we try to be like him? Certainly we are against the use of irregular ways to become rich but we are not against wealth. Moreover, if we succumbed to the logic of conflict of social differences, then the attractiveness of hidden wealth will return and take its activities out of the country.

Returning to the question of the sector, I support it. However, we want better revenues for it. The public sector is being developed now and its production has improved in recent years. However, it will not be a rival to the private sector. The private sector has a different role than the public sector. There are those who think we are biased toward the public sector. We are not biased or why did we declare the policy of economic openness? We have not turned back.

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, in your public sector policies you do not allow private banks. Why do you only allow public banks?

Mubarak: As far as the banks are concerned, the situation is more sensitive in this sector than in any other sector. We want productive companies which will receive all the support we can give them. However, we consider them to be banks of limited roles. Maybe there is some conservativeness in this regard, but no more than that exercised in all other countries. The banks are public property. We want to feel secure. That is why we are sensitive about bank expansion. Apart from this, there is no prejudice. Even public banks are censored.

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, outside investors are complaining of the existence of too many laws and too many interpretations of these laws.

Mubarak: We are the protectors of our laws. We want a productive investor to be allowed a profit but not to be greedy. We want him to operate within the framework of fair dealing. Egypt is full of good opportunities and good returns; there is no going back on the open policy.

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, why did you dismiss the interior minister? Was this the cost of the election results?

Mubarak: The former interior minister was not dismissed. He was transferred to another post suiting his efficiency at a time we wanted to develop the autonomy post. As for the results of the elections, they were extremely just. Had the government interfered, the results would be different. When one side is not successful, it resorts to gossiping about the results of the elections, charging that they were rigged. There were violations that do not affect the gist of the elections. There were violations by parties quarreling over parliamentary elections in a democratic atmosphere. All the parties had violations. All violations were referred to the court of justice. No one interfered in the results of the elections. The former interior minister stated that the elections were just.

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, it is said that you promised to lift the political isolation imposed on some politicians. This did not happen.

Mubarak: The people you have in mind received court rulings. At this stage we make no decisions about them. What was said is merely a press report that talks about hopes, not about facts. We have not at present made any decision. Something may happen in the future. What is important is that they are fulfilling a verdict passed against them.

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, what are the reports about Anba Shannudah [exiled head of the Coptic Church]? Has the state of isolation imposed on him been lifted?

Mubarak: May God make things run smoothly. We have to wait for some time. This may happen shortly.

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, why did the government go back on the issue of subsidies?

Mubarak: The government did not retract the decision except for macaroni. As for cooking fat, it is a different story. The story is not demonstrating the prestige of the government. It goes far beyond that. Some tried to take advantage of this issue for political reasons that go far beyond the loaf of bread received by those who deserve it. The situation is clear. We want the subsidy to get to the people for whom it is meant. The current subsidy enters through extremely terrible channels. It certainly does not reach the masses. Consumption of wheat in Egypt has reached 60 percent of the surplus available in the world. We import millions of tons of subsidized wheat in addition to other imports which are all consumed as feed for chickens and cattle, because subsidized they are cheaper. Can you believe that subsidized birth-control pills are used for fattening chickens because they contain a hormone? Chicken feed costs twice as much as subsidized wheat or flour. Moreover, the confectioners realize that subsidized wheat ensures them fantastic profits since confections are sold at a price much higher than the state-fixed price. The rate of consumption of flour is three times as much as the consumption in other countries. The reason behind this is not because the people get bread for normal consumption but because cheap flour and bread are used as cattle feed. Considering this rate of consumption, what will our future imports of wheat be? Who can provide our needs if we take into account that wheat production by some countries with a surplus is merely strategic production?

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, you talk about democracy while some people see that full democracy means allowing the freedom to strike and also the plurality of political parties, such as religious parties.

Mubarak: Religious parties are banned by law in our country. As to the freedom to strike, the question is, have we reached the stage where the state has become capable of bearing the consequences of these strikes and their ill effects? We are a developing country with limited resources at the present. We suffer from economic crises which we are trying to surmount at a time when the state is plotting a course to develop the national economy. Is the aim to paralyze the state? Is the climate appropriate for strike actions? For the time being, it is sufficient that we have a climate of democracy with all the freedom of expression that it provides. We have not prevented any opinions from being voiced. In the present climate of freedom of expression,it is not enough to just talk about strike actions where the spontaneous responses of the people are exploited for the sake of certain policies aimed away from the national good. We have accepted the climate of democracy and freedom, and we must accept its different ideas, but not everything can be put into practice.

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, there are those who say that Egyptian society is currently experiencing new social criteria which require a historic leadership.

Mubarak: Yes, the past few years have created new criteria in our society. There are signs of affluence, and signs of poverty. This requires moving the threads in a balanced way. It is the role of the political leadership to experience this new transformation. We respect those who live their opportunities, whoever they are. It is important that they do not steal and do their work honestly. As I said before, Egyptian society is currently experiencing various social differences; but this is the law of change which we must accept. We must refrain from fighting except when its behavior warrants it. Furthermore it is our responsibility as leaders to extinguish the fire of class struggle so that the have-nots would not hate the haves, but instead will try to work and get their opportunity. We will of course develop legislation to provides social justice, but without exaggeration and without reaching a stage where the state, in the interest of those who bear the torches of class struggle, becomes a party against those who have had their opportunities.

Al-Jarrallah: Mr President, there are those who complain of the extremism of the Egyptian minister of economy.

Mubarak: Much has been said about the minister of economy, but is it true? I have investigated all that his opponents have said but I have not discovered the alleged excesses. A wrong course of action had been taken with regard to currency transfers; and to protect these revenues, the minister of economy took these measures. I am a man who believes in the stability of the ministerial or official post. Where I am concerned, everything is open to discussion; but discussion is precluded when the matter reaches the stage of the betrayal of trust or the exploitation of influence. In the climate of freedom of expression and democracy, the minister of economy has faced a campaign and we can only investigate what is being said. We do not, however, become carried away by the climate of these campaigns, except when

betrayal of trust in office is proven. They thought that the minister of economy would be relieved of his duties, but that is not done in such a manner. I believe in the stability of ministerial posts. Some people thought that when the new Cabinet was formed, most of the ministers would disappear from their posts. Some people even made a list of new governors and ministers, but the government makeup did not change in accordance with the hopes of those who had tried to change government figures. Government figures are changed in the event of betrayal of trust. In a country like Egypt the stability of the official post is indispensable so that we may bring to account those who fail in carrying out their duty.

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, what was the extent of the disturbances in Kafr al-Dawwar?

Mubarak: They are over now and they have been brought under control. There are those who wanted to exploit them, but we have useful ways of making people aware so that they are not exploited. We wanted government subsidies to go to those who really need them, those for whom the subsidies were intended. There were those who were talking about a loaf of bread for the needy as though we were against it. We wanted subsidies to be in accordance with a political logic whose channels are other than those for preserving the needy's need for a loaf of bread. We will not infringe upon democracy and the climate of freedom, but we will put forward our official view in this very same climate of freedom. I believe that the Egyptian people are capable of distinguishing between those who want to serve them and those who want to exploit them. The Presidency, in my view, maintains a position of neutrality among all parties. The Presidency is not a party to commercial interests. At present the Presidency receives [allowances for] housing, clothing, and transport, and should not aspire for more. When the Presidency feels that its decision serves the public, it will defend such a decision and will not go back on it.

Al-Jarallah: Mr President, the Egyptian press, and perhaps the Egyptian people also, are asking when the post of vice president will be restored?

Mubarak: So far there is no post of vice president, and when there is, we will announce it. But why all this insistence and hurry? During the previous administration there was no vice president until I became Al-Sadat's vice president — prior to that there were no vice presidents. The Vice Presidency must be a work center and not merely a formality. When there is a vice president prepared to work, this will be announced.

Al-Jarallah: What is your view of the U.S. elections, Mr President?

Mubarak: We are, of course, watching this election in light of our interests and our cooperation with the U.S. Administration. Our cooperation with the U.S. Administration is specific and known. Therefore, we wish President Reagan success.

The interview with the Egyptian leader — whose preoccupations have increased with the growth of Egypt's role after he has developed that role — is over. Experience has made Husni Mubarak an important figure in Middle East politics. He now realizes that he can, by the friendships he has made, do a great deal for his country and perhaps also for his friends around the world.

Mubarak on Iraq, U.S. Assistance to Israel

NC231446 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — Following the meetings he held today at the Al-'Urubah Palace, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak stated that the telephone conversation he had yesterday with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn was undertaken to inform himself about the situation in Iraq. His excellency said that President Saddam Husayn invited him to visit Iraq whenever he wishes.

Asked whether a date has been fixed for his visit to Iraq, his excellency said: No date has been fixed for my visit.

Asked about the meetings he is holding with various political leaders in the Arab region, he said: We have had various contacts all over, but it is not good to talk about them.

In response to a question on expectations that Iraq will be the next country, following Jordan, to restore relations with Egypt, President Mubarak said: We will always welcome the restoration of relations with any Arab country.

Asked whether his conversation with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn yesterday dealt with the restoration of relations between Egypt and Iraq, his excellency said: My conversation with President Saddam Husayn did not deal with the issue of restoring relations.

The president also responded to a question about a new U.S. initiative following the U.S. elections, saying: We do not expect a new U.S. initiative now. The United States is committed to its current initiative and President Reagan has already spoken of reviving and reactivating that initiative following the elections. We will appraise all aspects of the situation after the elections (?to determine) the appropriate way to go.

Asked about the recent visit to Israel by the U.S. secretary of defense and the announcement of support for some of Israel's military industries, President Mubarak said: We have a promise that we and Israel will be treated equally as far as U.S. assistance is concerned, following the peace treaty.

President Mubarak added: We are not opposed to U.S. assistance to Israel, but we will demand the same assistance.

Answering another question about reports that Shim'on Peres received a promise from the United States, during his recent visit to Washington, of additional assistance totalling $1.2 billion during the current year, President Mubarak said: There was talk of this, but I have no official confirmation of it. If it did happen, then I will ask for the same assistance.

On his upcoming visit to Europe, his excellency said: My visit will be limited to France and Germany.

Responding to a final question about the date for the creation of the Political Bureau of the NDP, his excellency said that the bureau will be created this weekend.

Further on Visit of Jordan's Crown Prince

Prince Hasan Visits Sinai

NC231325 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1145 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Sharm al-Shaykh, 23 Oct (MENA) — Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan and the accompanying delegation visited Sharm al-Shaykh today. They were accompanied on the visit by Engineer Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy and head of the escort team accompanying his highness; Dr Yusuf Wali, minister of agriculture and food security; and a large number of officials from the Agriculture Ministry and research centers who participated in the seminar on vistas of Egyptian-Jordanian cooperation.

On his arrival at Sharm al-Shaykh Airport at noon today, the Jordanian crown prince was received by Majdi Sulayman, Southern Sinai governor, political and executive leaders, and People's Assembly members for the Sinai Governorate.

After the visit Prince Hasan said: Man asks for mercy for the souls of our heroic martyrs who have given their blood for the restoration of Arab land.

He said: We feel proud and look with optimism toward a future achieved through serious work. I believe that the next decade, given stability in the area, will witness a large, positive change, God willing.

Prince Hasan stressed to his Jordanian delegation, which includes the agriculture minister, the need for coordination between the Egyptian and Jordanian sides in the field of agricultural research and the marketing of agricultural products, particularly flowers and medicinal herbs.

Prince Hasan pointed out that Jordan imports many plants and flowers from foreign countries and it can now import these from Southern Sinai farms. He said that the Gulf of Aqaba is a link between Egypt and Jordan.

Hasan Returns to Cairo

NC231449 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — His Highness Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan and the delegation accompanying him returned to Cairo this afternoon following a visit of several hours to the South Sinai Governorate.

Hasan Departs for Home

NC231755 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan, his wife Princess Tharwat, and the members of his delegation left Cairo for Amman this evening following a 4-day visit to Egypt. During the visit, Crown Prince Hasan held talks with President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, and ranking Egyptian officials.

While in Egypt, the Jordanian crown prince opened a seminar on cooperation between Egypt and Jordan, and visited Southern Sinai.

In a predeparture statement, Jordan's Crown Prince Hasan expressed his pleasure at visiting Egypt, adding: It was a great opportunity to meet and consult with the brothers in cherished Egypt.

He said that there are bright prospects for cooperation between the two countries in all walks of life, cooperation that is bound to serve the interests of both peoples and the Arab nation at large. The Jordanian crown prince added that the next stage will involve tremendous development between Jordan and Egypt, stressing that the two countries will exchange various kinds of delegations.

The Jordanian crown prince was seen off at the airport by Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; Dr Yusuf Wali, minister of agriculture and food security; Engineer Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy and head of the escort mission; Ihab Wahbah, nominated ambassador to Jordan; the Jordanian charge d'affaires in Cairo; and members of the Jordanian Embassy staff.

Joint Statement Issued

JN232025 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 23 Oct 84

["Text" of Jordanian-Egyptian joint statement issued in Amman and Cairo on 23 October on the occasion of Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan's visit to Egypt]

[Text] At the invitation of Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hasan of Jordan and Princess Tharwat led a large delegation on an official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt during the period 20-23 October 1984. The delegation comprised the minister of the court; the minister of industry, trade, and tourism; the minister of agriculture; and a number of senior Jordanian officials.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and His Highness Crown Prince Hasan held a meeting during the visit and reviewed the situation in the region and in the international arena. They also discussed ways to strengthen bilateral relations in all fields.

Crown Prince Hasan headed the Jordanian delegation to a meeting which studied economic cooperation between the two countries in light of what had been agreed on during President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's historic visit to Jordan during the period 9-11 October 1984 as the guest of His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan. Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali headed the Egyptian side to this meeting. The Egyptian side comprised the ministers of foreign affairs; transport, communications, and maritime transport; electricity and energy; planning; international cooperation; agriculture and food security; economy and

foreign trade; supply and internal trade; industry; cabinet affairs; and the minister of state for administrative development.

During the visit, Jordan's crown prince headed the second seminar on the outlook for Jordanian-Egyptian scientific and technological cooperation that was held in Cairo during the period 20-23 October 1984 and that was attended by an elite group of scientists and experts from both countries. The seminar concentrated on coordinating production policies and scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries in all spheres, including agriculture, desalinization of water, geological research, exploration of minerals and oil, and oceanology.

Jordan's crown prince met with the speaker of the People's Assembly, the Consultative Council chairman, the deputy prime minister and defense minister, and the foreign minister. The crown prince visited Al-Azhar, met with the great imam of Al-Azhar, Shaykh 'Ali Jad al-Haq, and discussed ways to strengthen ties between Al-Azhar and Jordanian scientific institutions and Islamic research for the well-being of the two peoples and the Islamic nation.

During his visit to Egypt, the crown prince toured southern Sinai and was briefed on the programs aimed at developing that part of Egypt. He toured one of the model farms. The prince met with intellectuals and the press during his visit to the Al-Ahram Foundation. The visit gave the Egyptian people the opportunity to express to fraternal Jordan, the king, the government, and the people through the crown prince their deepest appreciation and pride for Jordan's move to restore diplomatic and political relations between the two countries — the blessed move which is considered an effective and tangible contribution to the efforts being exerted to close the Arab ranks, to achieve a unified Arab will, and to coordinate efforts in the service and interests of the Arab nation.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan's talks in Cairo emanated from a realization of the dangers threatening the Arab region and from an awareness of the need to coordinate efforts in order to confront these dangers. The two sides expressed their belief in the need to promote efforts and to coordinate action in support of the Palestine question — the crux of the Middle East strife — and in recognizing the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their inalienable right to self-determination. They also expressed their belief in the need to confront Israeli practices in the occupied territories, practices which violate international law and human rights. Out of this belief, Jordan welcomed Egypt's proposal to hold an international conference to study the deteriorating situation in the occupied territory and to urge respect for international charters.

During the talks that were held during the crown prince's visit, the Jordanian and Egyptian sides reiterated their full support for fraternal Iraq in its just battle and for all the sincere efforts seeking to put a quick and effective end to the war that is being waged on its border, a war which consumes the region's human and material resources.

The two sides agreed on the need to make great efforts to achieve an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon without delay. They voiced support for all the efforts to enable the Lebanese people to enjoy freedom and peace within their independent legitimate authority.

In confirmation of the true desire by the two sides to strengthen economic, trade, technical, and cultural cooperation between their two countries, ways and means of promoting trade exchange and encouraging joint ventures were discussed. The two sides also discussed ways to promote cooperation in banking, planning, exchanging expertise, and establishing joint agricultural projects. They also discussed promoting cooperation in sea, air, and overland transporation; technical expertise; and cultural and scientific exchange.

The two sides agreed to conclude a comprehensive economic cooperation agreement between the two countries in order to enhance the developing relations between them in the various fields.

The two sides expressed their great satisfaction with the results of the discussion made on operating a ferry service between the ports of Aqaba and Al-Nuwaybi' in a period not to exceed 9 months, and on encouraging tourism between the two countries.

Accordingly, the two sides agreed on forming five specialized committees for trade, banking facilities, transportation, tourism, related services, agriculture, industry, energy, construction, human resources, and technical, scientific, cultural, economic, and investment cooperation. These committees will continue their meetings in Cairo.

Reportage on Visit of UK Defense Secretary

Heseltine Arrives in Cairo

NC231937 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1925 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — Michael Heseltine, British secretary of state for defense, arrived in Cairo this evening on a 3-day official visit to Egypt, during which he will meet with Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production.

In a statement made on his arrival, the British guest said that he will hold talks with Egyptian officials on ways to bolster bilateral military cooperation. The British secretary of state for defense was received at the airport by Staff Major General 'Umar Hammad, Central Zone commander.

Abu Ghazalah, Heseltine Begin Talks

NC240918 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0840 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Oct (MENA) — Talks opened this morning between Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, and Michael Heseltine, British secretary of state for defense, on military cooperation between the two countries.

The Egyptian side to the talks included Air Defense Forces Commander Lieutenant General Sayyid Hamdi; Air Force Commander Lieutenant General Muhammad 'Abd al-Hamid Hilmi;

Naval Forces Commander Vice Admiral 'Ali Tawfiq Jad; and Major General Kamal Abu al-'Azayim, secretary general of the Defense Ministry and chairman of the Armed Forces Armament Committee. The British side included the military delegation accompanying the British defense minister and British ambassador in Cairo Michael Weir.

The session of talks was preceded by the holding of an official military reception for the British defense minister, who arrived in Cairo last night. He is expected to leave Cairo on Friday morning.

President Mubarak Receives Heseltine

NC241016 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1005 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Oct (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received at the Al-'Urubah Palace today Michael Heseltine, British secretary of state for defense, who is currently visiting Cairo. Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, and Michael Weir, British ambassador in Cairo, attended the meeting.

Romanian Oil Minister Departs Cairo

NC231356 cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — Romanian Oil Minister Gheorghe Vlad left Cairo this afternoon at the end of a 2-day visit to Egypt during which he held talks with officials at the Petroleum Ministry on promoting technical cooperation between the two countries in the field of oil prospecting in Egyptian territories. The Romanian official was seen off at the airport by geologist Husayn Kamil, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation. The Romanian official's visit to Cairo followed a similar visit to Sanaa.

Sudan's President Numayri Departs Cairo

NC231350 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1335 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri and his wife left Cairo this afternoon at the end of a 10-day visit to Egypt during which he attended with President Husni Mubarak the opening session of the Nile Valley Parliament. President Numayri was seen off by President Mubarak and his wife.

Mubarak Receives DPRK Trade Unions Chairman

NC231250 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak at noon today received at Al-'Urubah Palace Kim Pong-chu, the chairman of the General Federation of Trade Unions of the DPRK, and the accompanying delegation. The meeting was attended by Manpower Minister Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad, the Egyptian Workers Union chairman, and DPRK Ambassador in Cairo O Chang-rim.

Kim Pong-chu arrived in Cairo 2 days ago at the head of a workers union delegation on a week-long visit to Egypt at the invitation of the Egyptian Workers Trade Unions General Federation.

Handed Kim Il-song Message

NC231337 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today received Kim Pong-chu, the chairman of the General Federation of Trade Unions of the DPRK who handed his excellency a message from DPRK President Kim Il-song dealing with the continuing cooperation between the two countries. The meeting was attended by manpower minister, Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad; the DPRK ambassador in Cairo; and 'Abd al-Mun'im Faraj, member of the Board of Directors of the Workers General Federation.

After the meeting Ahmad said that Kim Il-song's message also deals with the DPRK president's appreciation of President Mubarak's achievements since he came to power. It also includes the DPRK president's gratitude for Egypt's support for the DPRK. He added that the meeting between the president and the chairman of the General Federation of Trade Unions of the DPRK also touched upon ways to consolidate ties between the Egyptian Workers General Federation and the DPRK General Federation of Trade Unions.

Petrolum Minister Returns From Switzerland

NC240645 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, has stated that during the recent OPEC meeting, Egypt clearly declared its stand — that it insists on not cutting its oil prices unless a collapse occurs in world oil prices.

In a statement on his return to Cairo yesterday following a 2-day visit to Switzerland where he attended the OPEC meeting, Qandil said that during the OPEC meeting to be held in Geneva on Monday, Egypt will make a decision which will take into account both the interests of the oil producing and the oil importing states. This is because Egypt does not want to wreck the oil market or harm the interests of the importing countries.

Qandil said that the OPEC members praised Egypt's oil policy and its nonreduction of oil prices.

Turkey Agrees To Help Combat Border Terrorism

JN241137 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1102 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Oct (INA) — It was announced here today that Iraq and Turkey have agreed to confront terrorist activities carried out by subversive [takhribiyah] elements that deal with foreign quarters.

Latif Nusayyif Jasim, Iraqi minister of culture and information, told INA today that, during Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu's visit to Iraq 14-15 October, the two sides signed joint minutes, including their agreement on several measures to confront these activities which are carried out while Iraq is being exposed to Iranian aggression.

The minister said the agreement to fight these elements stems from the existing friendship and cooperation between the two neighboring countries and from their desire to ensure security and stability on their joint borders. He said that the two sides agreed to carry out the required measures on the basis of reciprocity and to allow forces from either side to pursue subversive groups in the territory of the other, provided this action is vital and so long as it does not extend more than 5 km or last more than 3 days.

The minister also said that the agreement stipulates coordination and exchange of information in terms of ensuring future security and stability in border areas.

Foreign Minister Receives YAR Envoy 23 Oct

JN231245 Baghdad INA Arabic 1212 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Oct (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Dr Ahmad al-Asbahi, YAR foreign minister.

The two sides discussed the current Arab situation, bilateral relations, and issues of common interest.

Taha Yasin 'Ali, Foreign Ministry under secretary, and the delegation accompanying the YAR minister attended the meeting.

Dr al-Asbahi arrived here last night as YAR President Abdallah Salih's envoy to President Saddam Husayn.

YAR Envoy Leaves Baghdad

JN231802 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Oct (INA) — Dr Ahmad al-Asbahi, YAR foreign minister and President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's envoy to President Saddam Husayn, left Baghdad for Cairo this afternoon at the end of a short visit to Iraq.

During the visit, Dr al-Asbahi delivered a written message to President Saddam Husayn from YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on cooperation between the two fraternal countries and the current Arab situation.

Foreign Ministry Statement on UN Anniversary

JN231300 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1148 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 23 Oct (INA) — The Iraqi Foreign Ministry has said that the UN's way of dealing with issues in the Arab region does not call for pride or appreciation. In a statement today on the UN's 39th anniversary, the ministry described the UN's method of tackling the Palestinian issue, the Iranian aggression on Iraq, the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, and the continuous Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon as regrettable. The ministry said that in the 5th year of the Iraqi-Iranian war, the United Nations is still unable to stop the war and end aggression, and the aggressor continues his intransigence and contempt of UN resolutions and world public opinion.

The ministry noted that, as an organization, the United Nations itself is not responsible for this abnormal situation, but the responsibility lies with its members, particularly with certain powers. Therefore, Iraq adheres to its UN membership and is proud of it because it believes in UN principles and noble aims. The ministry added that the world's peace-loving peoples consider the United Nations as their strong supporter and main refuge in their struggle to realize their aspirations for freedom, dignity, and full liberation of their territories.

The Iraqi Foreign Ministry expressed hope that this occasion will be the beginning of a new phase in which the United Nations will revise the negative aspects of its work and the shortcomings that contravene the spirit of its charter in terms of the measures that should be taken to deter aggression and punish the aggressor.

Yasir 'Arafat Holds News Conference in Baghdad

JN231734 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpts] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has arrived in Jeddah from Baghdad after a 2-day official visit. During his stay in Baghdad, he met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian, Arab, and global arenas. He also met with Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister and reviewed current developments.

Abu 'Ammar was seen off at the airport by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the head and members of the RCC Liberation Movement office; Brother 'Azzam al-Ahmad, director of the PLO office in Baghdad; the commander of the Palestine Liberation Army force positioned in fraternal Iraq; and cadres of the PLO office in Baghdad.

Abu 'Ammar held a press conference at the PLO office in Baghdad which was attended by a number of world news agencies and television correspondents. Responding to the questions, Abu 'Ammar asserted that the Palestinian figure is a difficult number in the equation of the Middle East conflict. He asserted the United States continues its aggressive policy against the Palestinian people and the Arab nation through its unlimited support for Israel, which continues its ugly war against our militant people. He said the U.S. presidential elections will not produce anything new and the United States will never change

its policy toward our people. Abu 'Ammar reiterated that the Zionist Likud and Labor Parties are two faces of the same coin. Abu 'Ammar also stated the PLO's support for holding an international conference to settle the Middle East crisis and to solve the Palestinian cause in a just way, based on the Palestinian people's national and firm rights, particularly their right to self-determination and to establish an independent Palestinian state.

At his news conference, Brother Abu 'Ammar noted that efforts will continue to stop the Iraqi-Iranian war and to solve the conflict through political efforts.

Interviewed by Monte Carlo

JN232052 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Hasan al-Kashif dispatch from Baghdad]

[Text] In his meeting with Palestinian trade union officials and military cadres in Baghdad, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] had spoken with pride of the PLO's role in confronting Israel in southern Lebanon. He said: We distributed 250,000 weapons in southern Lebanon during our presence there. That is why resistance operations have not been suspended. Abu 'Ammar spoke with great pain about the Israeli raid which killed 81 Palestinian officers who were in prison in the place where the Israeli planes had intentionally raided. He described the operation as a physical liquidation of these officers.

Before leaving Baghdad yesterday evening, I asked him some questions and had this interview with him. I asked him about the topics he and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn had discussed and about the results of the talks. He replied by saying: We are proud of our militant relations with President Saddam Husayn. These relations are based on a militant and fraternal understanding in the service of the Arab nation. These relations are based on Iraq's support for the Palestinian revolution. Abu 'Ammar added: The meeting was positive and important.

Discussion focused on several issues that are of importance in the Palestinian arena, particularly the convening of the PNC. Abu 'Ammar said: The brother president reiterated his invitation to convene the PNC on Iraqi soil. The brother president told me: I am not only inviting the PNC to convene in Baghdad, you must consider Iraq as the base of the Palestinian revolution and the PLO, a base which is open to Palestinian action in all areas. Abu 'Ammar added: I discussed many other important issues with the brother president, particularly the situation in Lebanon, the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, and the situation in the Arab region.

I asked him: What about the efforts for halting the war? You are a member of the Islamic Good Offices Committee. Have you discussed this with President Saddam Husayn? Abu 'Ammar said: It is well known that the military committee stemming from the Islamic Good Offices Committee was supposed to meet in Jeddah last week. This military committee comprises Pakistan, Turkey, Bangladesh, and the PLO. However, some committee members have asked for a postponement of the meeting for reasons of their own. During my presence in Jeddah 2 days ago, I discussed this issue with Habib Chatti. We sent an urgent memorandum to President Dawda Jawara, chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee. We also received a call from Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad in regard to holding a summit meeting of the heads of state which are members of the Islamic Good Offices Committee in Dhaka. We in the PLO have agreed to the Bangladesh president's request.

Abu 'Ammar added: There are serious indications with respect to the escalation of the war, such as what took place in the Red Sea, what is taking place in the Gulf, in addition to the battles in Sayf Sa'd and the troop concentrations opposite Basra. Abu 'Ammar said: It is only natural that this situation and the dangers it entails constitute factors that urge us to carry out serious action within the framework of the Nonaligned Movement or the ICO. All are called to move because they are responsible toward the Arab nation, the Islamic nation, and the nonaligned peoples.

I asked him: Will the PNC convene or not? This is a question that has been raised for over a year. Abu 'Ammar answered: There is the invitation of which I spoke a short while ago. We also received an invitation from Jordan's King Husayn. We will decide which one is more suitable and we thank Amman and Baghdad for their invitations. You know that we held a meeting in Tunis for Palestinian national figures and popular organizations. These constitute half the members of the PNC. That is why the decision they made to convene the PNC is binding to the PLO Executive Committee and to the PNC presidency. As is well known, the decision of the Tunis meeting stressed the necessity to convene the PNC in November. We will hold contacts with the concerned parties to implement this decision.

I told him that observers were greatly interested in the meeting he held with the USSR foreign minister in Berlin. I asked him: How do you assess the PLO's relations with the USSR? This was my third question, and Abu 'Ammar replied: We are proud of our good and strong relations with the socialist countries, foremost being the USSR. He added: I met with Comrade Gromyko in Berlin during my presence there to participate in the 35th anniversary of the foundation of the GDR at the invitiation of Comrade Honecker. I held lengthy and important talks with Comrade Gromyko on various issues, particularly the USSR plan to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East through an international conference which the USSR is calling for and in which all the parties, including the PLO, would participate .

The USSR adopts a firm and unswerving stand on the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to establish an independent state, their right to repatriation, and their right to self-determination. Abu 'Ammar said: My talks with Gromyko also dealt with several important issues related to the situation in the Arab region and the USSR mediation between us and the Syrian regime. Abu 'Ammar added: We positively evaluate our relations with the USSR.

I asked Abu 'Ammar: What about Palestinian military action? Is it witnessing a new stage as a result of the naval operations and the operations which have taken place in the occupied

territories? Abu 'Ammar said: About 2 months ago, I referred to the decision that was adopted by the Higher Palestinian Military Council and approved by the political command. This decision calls for the escalation of military action against the Zionist military institution, whether in southern Lebanon or in our occupied Palestinian land. As to whether this is the beginning of a new stage, we will let acts speak for themselves. We have adopted a decision to escalate the struggle and this decision is being implemented.

Before concluding my interview with Abu 'Ammar I asked him: What is left of the Aden-Algiers agreement in light of the recent Palestinian and Arab stands? Abu 'Ammar said: In spite of all this, we remain committed to what we have signed. We will not retract our commitment. We will respect our signature. Some of the brothers signed the agreement, then disavowed their signature. We respect our signature and we respect the position which entitled us to sign, because the issue is not a matter of restricted organizational interests. The matter is more grave than this. The issue is that of the Palestinian people; people who are giving bountiful offerings and are confronting Sharon and Kahane in Hebron and Nabulus; a people whose children are making miracles with stones and RPG's. That is why all Palestinian leaders must rise to the level of the sacrifices our people are offering.

Abu 'Ammar concluded by saying: The PNC will convene in spite of all the obstacles and obstructions that some try to place before the PNC. The battle is a battle of wills, and the Palestinian will, which has stood fast and continues to stand fast in the face of the Zionist enemy, is a will that cannot be subservient to any party.

Communique on Activities in II Army Corps Sector

JN231750 Bagdhad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Communique No 1,628 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 23 October 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With an insistence on repulsing the treacherous Khomeyniite aggression and confidence in scoring more splendid victories against the covetous aggressors, the valiant Iraqis, with their enlightened minds and their strong arms, continue to fight the rancorous enemy, crush its human waves, and destroy its military capabilities. The results for yesterday evening and for today are as follows:

1. Since early this morning, our hero eagles of the air have been pouncing on enemy targets, discharging their anger and fire on the frustrated enemy forces and its collapsing remanants in the II Army Corps sector. Their destructive attacks and their courageous feats were directed against enemy troop concentrations and enemy military hardware, weapons, and equipment. They also attacked and destroyed weapon depots, vehicle and personnel assembly points, supply points [igat al-idamah], and artillery positions. Our valiant forward units saw flames and columns of smoke rising from enemy positions and heard the sound of explosions in the enemy units' positions and its weapon emplacements. All our fighter aircraft returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God. Our fighter aircraft carried out 100 combat missions today.

2. Using all types of weapons, our forward units pounded enemy positions and units opposite their positions in the II Army Corps sector of operations, killing and wounding many, capturing one, and destroying one excavator, one vehicle, several weapon and personnel positions, and one observation post. In another area of the same sector, an enemy patrol, comprising nine members, tried to approach one of our valiant units' positions. Our intrepid fighters confronted the enemy patrol, killed six, and captured the rest who were evacuated to the rear.

3. The valiant knights of our helicopter gunships today continued their successful raids againsnt enemy positions and troop concentrations in the II Army Corps sector of operations, inflicting on the enemy more losses in life and equipment. At 0900 today, a formation of our daring helicopter gunships carried out a surprise blow against enemy positions and troop concentrations in the sector of operations east of Basra, scoring very effective hits. After accomplishing their combat missions in these two sectors, all our helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praise be to God, leaving behind the enemy's weapons and military hardware on fire. Our helicopter gunships carried out 10 combat missions today.

4. Using artillery and all types of weapons, our valiant forward units dealt fierce blows to enemy positions and troop concentrations in the sector of operations east of Basra, scoring accurate hits and destroying two infantry positions, killing or wounding several enemy elements.

5. Using all types of weapons, our forward units pounded an enemy gun and one medium-caliber machine gun in the Maysan sector, destroying them and killing their crews.

6. Escaping the terrorism and oppression which Iran is experiencing under the criminal Khomeyniite regime, new groups of Iranian civilians sought refuge with our forward units in the northern sector of the battlefield and were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 October 1984

AL-JUMHURIYAH Criticizes World Stand on War

JN220932 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0630 GMT 22 Oct 84

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Oct (INA) — The newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* has said that Iraq is now free to choose the best and most effective means of defending its territory now that the international community has proved unable to deter the Iranian rulers. In an editorial today, the paper noted that the international community is hesitating to adopt serious, effective measures for ending the war. It said that a war such as the Iraqi-Iranian war cannot be stopped by appeals, but by practical, effective measures in order to deter the Iranian regime. It urged the world community to stop supplying Iran with the means, such as weapons and war equipment, which encourage it and enable it to continue war.

The paper said in conclusion: The world community is urged to be more logical and to be true to the principles of the international and regional organizations in order to stop the bloodshed.

Rivalries Among Iranian Rulers Examined

GF231546 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1900 GMT 22 Oct 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, the agitation among Iranian rulers has led to the conclusion that the scuffles among them are intensifying every day. Hashemi-Rafsanjani has set up a front of rivalry against 'Ali Khamene'i, as has 'Ali Khamene'i against Montazeri. The other criminal mullahs have done the same as well. They are all waiting for an opportunity to destroy each other like monsters.

The mullahs, whose hands are stained with blood, regard the war they have imposed on Iraq as an opportunity for consolidating their positions. Meanwhile, each of them is moving in a separate direction with the aim of consolidating the dictatorship which has been set up by Khomeyni and which has been imposed on the poor people of Iran. This constitutes the main source of their disputes.

On the other hand, another reason for the discord and clashes among the Iranian leaders is the war imposed on Iraq. While one group of impostor mullahs wishes to launch a new attack against Iraq, another group opposes such an attack. The tragic results of the war have daunted the rulers of the Iranian regime. In fact, the results are threatening their position in power.

Nevertheless, what currently occupies the minds of the ruling mullahs in Iran is the question of who has a better chance of succeeding Khomeyni to rule that country? While Hashemi-Rafsanjani has demanded that Montazeri succeed Khomeyni, Mullah 'Ali Khamene'i has claimed that he is more worthy of the job. As for the Iranian people, they have been saying nothing on the matter. They have been watching with [word indistinct] those who have been playing with the fate of the poor people. This is due to the fact that those who concern themselves about Khomeyni's successor after Khomeyni passea away and those who covet Khomeyni's position wish to settle the matter without heeding any law and without taking any notice of the just demands of the poor people of Iran.

The Iranian mullahs wish for the continuation of tension and disorder in that country. [Sentence indistinct] And the ruler to be chosen must be one capable of maintaining Khomeyni's treacherous policy. In fact, he should be a second Khomeyni. The state of war should also be maintained. The Iranian people should continue suffering from hunger, unemployment, and disasters. The threat against Iran's existence should be maintained. The harassment of the Iranian people should continue with illiterate thoughts reminiscent of medieval times.

The ruling group of impostors in Iran want, whoever comes to power in Iran, be it a mullah or a shah, to see innocent people continue to die at the battlefronts. (?Conspiracies) should continue for realizing the plans drawn up by international imperialists. [Sentence indistinct] The people know this well.

Kurdish Clandestine on Assembly Elections

GF231718 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Revolution in Surani Kurdish 1300 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Elections for the Iraqi National Assembly began on 20 October. They were boycotted by the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. The Iraqi information media tried to portray the event as though it was a democratic event. [Words indistinct] the mere processing of votes does not mean that the elections were carried out in a democratic atmosphere. On the contrary, these elections were carried out in a very undemocratic atmoshpere.

Citizens other than Ba'thists and government authorities were banned from candidacy. [Words indistinct] government officials and civil service employees were ordered to participate in voting else their salaries would be cut and they might face death.

In Kurdistan, villagers were taken to cities and towns by force to participate in the voting. As long as the majority of the candidates are Ba'thists or government officials, the Iraqi citizen cannot be persuaded to believe that elections in Iraq are democratic. The Iraqi citizen can see clearly that his interests are not represented by the candidate he is forced to vote for.

The main issue is to bring about democracy first in order for elections to be carried out democratically. In Kurdistan, the lack of democracy can be seen relatively easily, as the basic rights of the Kurdish people have still not been granted. This is not the way to get the Kurds interested in elections. The correct path for the Iraqi authorities to follow is to provide a democratic atmosphere in Kurdistan and gain the trust of its inhabitants before conducting election campaigns. The Kurds should be allowed to vote and stand for election without pressure and threats.

Briefs

PRC Ambassador Leaves— RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim received PRC Ambassador Hou Yefeng today on the occasion of the end of his term in office in Baghdad. [Excerpt] [*Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Oct 84 JN*]

Outgoing Bangladesh Ambassador — This morning, RCC Vice-Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim received Bangladesh Ambassador in Baghdad Mir Mohammad Rezaul Rahman on the occasion of the latter's end of term of office in Baghdad. During the meeting, they reviewed Iraqi-Bangladesh friendship and ways to develop this friendship in the service of the joint interests of the two countries. [Text] [*Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Oct 84 JN*]

Crown Prince Hasan Returns From Cairo 23 Oct

JN232035 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] His majesty the king was at the airport this evening to welcome back His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan and Her Highness Princess Tharwat upon their arrival in Amman at the end of a 4-day official visit to Egypt at the invitation of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. Also at the airport to welcome the crown prince were the speakers of the two houses of Parliament, the chief chamberlain, the secretary general of the Royal Court, as well as senior civic and military officials.

Also returning home with the crown prince were the accompanying delegation, which comprise the Minister of Court 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, the president of the Islamic Civilization Research Foundation Dr Nasir al-Din al-Asad, the presidents of the universities, and members of the Jordanian delegation to the seminar of the scientific cooperation between Jordan and Egypt.

UK's Heseltine Confers With Prime Minister

JN231310 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister and Defense Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat today received British Secretary of State for Defense Michael Heseltine. They discussed the developments in the Middle East political situation and the current European stance toward these developments.

'Ubaydat stressed Jordan's firm commitment to a just and lasting peace in the Middle East in return for a complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories in accordance with the UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

The British ambassador in Amman attended.

Interview With Amman Television

JN240638 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Interview with British Secretary of State for Defense Michael Heseltine by unidentified Amman television correspondents in Amman; videorecorded]

[Text] Mr Michael Heseltine and the military delegation accompanying him left Amman later today at the end of his visit to Jordan. He was seen off at the airport by the Army's commander in chief, General Zayd ibn Shakir, the chief of the general staff, the British ambassador in Amman, and a group of Army officers. Before departure, Mr Heseltine said his talks in Amman covered all subjects of interest to the two sides:

[Begin recording] [First correspondent] Mr Heseltine, how do you describe your talks and visit to Jordan?

[Michael Heseltine] Well, it has been a fascinating visit. I have never been here before. Of course, I have heard and read a lot about it. There is a deep friendship between our two countries, but when you come and see and fly over the country and meet so many people— it has been the most fascinating and memorable experience. And so, that is my first impression.

I have been very fortunate in having coversations with his majesty, the commander in chief, and the prime minister. And that, of course, has been very valuable to me in building up an understanding of the Jordanian position and in improving the familiarity I have with the problems in general in the Middle East, which, of course, are deep seated, historical, and immensely complicated. I have been in the Middle East before, but never to Jordan, and so I have now very much added to my understanding of the situation.

[First correspondent] Sir, what [can you say] particularly about your talks?

[Heseltine] Well, we have had wide-ranging talks about the political problems, about the opportunities, about the hopes, but against the background of realism, because I think everybody understands the intractable nature of the problems. And I have some considerable experience in dealing with this when we have a small but important British contingent in Lebanon until fairly recently. So, I do not think there is any particular announcement or decision that I'd want to make, except to say how grateful I am for the breadth of discussion that I have been able to have with important leaders of your country.

[First correspondent] Thank you, sir.

[Heseltine] Thank you.

[Second correspondent] Did you discuss possible British arms sales to Jordan, and will Britain supply Jordan with arms as a result of your talks here?

[Heseltine] I have really not had any long-ranging discussions about arms sales. Of course, Britain is always ready to do what it can to meet Jordanian requirements, as we have in the past, I think with considerable success. I was very pleased to see the Khalid tanks and to hear how well they had been introduced into service. But I do not see myself coming here to try and act in some way as an arms salesman. I am here as a member of the British Government to discuss the much wider interests of this country, and the requirements of the British (?unit) of the Jordanian armed services are very much a matter for them. They'll make their own decisions; they'll choose what they think suits them. If it is British, I shall be very pleased.

[Second correspondent] Thank you. [end recording]

Supply Minister Returns From ROK, Taiwan, PRC

JN231501 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Amman, 23 Oct (PETRA) — Minister of Supplies Ibrahim Ayyub and his accompanying delegation returned to Amman today after an official tour of the ROK, Taiwan, and the PRC to strengthen trade and economic cooperation between Jordan and these countries.

In a statement to PETRA, Ayyub said that during the visit a number of deals were made to buy supplies and consumer goods for the military and civilian corporations and to increase the size of trade and economic exchanges with these countries within the framework of Jordan's economic policy, which calls for purchasing goods from the countries that import Jordan's phosphate and fertilizers.

He said that the officials in these countries responded to Jordan's policy and promised to increase their purchase of Jordanian goods.

Official Denies Report on Rejection of Egypt Ties

JN240715 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 24 Oct 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — PETRA — In reply to what was published by the Dubay newspaper *AL-BAYAN* on 17 October 1984 about the Jordanian House of Representatives' rejecting a request to support Jordan's restoration of relations with Egypt, the Parliament secretary general said that the report is baseless. He added that the best proof of this is the House's reply to the speech from the throne welcoming and supporting the restoration of relations with fraternal Egypt and considering it a blessed step on the road to Arab solidarity.

Al-Jumayyil Says Libya Visit 'Very Fruitful'

NC231423 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] President al-Jumayyil arrived in Rome from Tripoli, Libya, at noon today at the end of his 12-hour visit to Libya where he met twice with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

President al-Jumayyil described his visit to Libya as very fruitful and said the talks dealt with questions of interest to the two countries. He added that Lebanon is paying a big price for the plot which is being concocted against its Arabism and, consequently, there was further devastation and killing and that the Lebanese paid a big price for these plots.

Al-Jumayyil said: Through our cooperation with our Arab friends we are seeking to end violence and destruction and to bring about Lebanon's unity.

Al-Jumayyil Visits Italy; Meets Pope, Officials

For Paris AFP coverage of President Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Italy, including his meetings with Pope John Paul II, Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, President Sandro Pertini, and Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, see the Italy section of the 24 October Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*.

Returns to Beirut

NC240721 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The Cabinet will hold its regular meeting today under the chairmanship of President Amin al-Jumayyil. Prime Minister Rashid Karami and the ministers will attend. Minister Nabih Birri will be absent from the meeting. He is leaving today for Damascus to meet with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. Minister Walid Junblatt will also be absent as he is currently abroad. This is in addition to Minister Victor Qasir, who is in Damascus to attend a conference.

President al-Jumayyil returned to Beirut this morning following a lightning tour during which he visited Libya, Italy, and the Vatican. He held talks with Libyan and Italian officials and met with His Holiness Pope John Paul II. The Lebanese situation was the subject of discussion in the president's meetings.

A statement issued by Italian Prime Minister Craxi's office following President al-Jumayyil's talks said that the Lebanese and Italian leaders agreed that the continued Israel military presence in southern Lebanon constitutes a big obstacle in the way of improving Lebanese national security.

Al-Jumayyil Receives Invitation To Visit Algeria

NC240658 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil has received an official invitation to visit Algeria. The date of this visit has not yet been decided. However, informed sources think it is not unlikely that the visit will take place within the next 24 hours. Thus, the fate of the regular Cabinet session today will depend on this visit.

The sources explained that if President al-Jumayyil goes to Algeria this morning, the Cabinet session will be postponed. This is most likely, especially since three ministers will be absent from the Cabinet session as they are presently abroad.

Cabinet Meets Under President al-Jumayyil 24 Oct

NC241050 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The Cabinet session began at the B'abda presidential palace at 1030 today under the chairmanship of President Amin al-Jumayyil. Prime Minister Rashid Karami and the ministers are attending the session, apart from Ministers Birri, Junblatt, and Qasir who are abroad.

The discussion today will deal with topics on the agenda, while Saturday's meeting will focus on the political situation in the country.

CSSR National Front Welcomes Junblatt, Delegation

For Prague coverage of the visit to the CSSR of a delegation led by Walid Junblatt, chairman of the Progressive Socialist Party, see the CSSR section of the 24 October Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Birri Receives Australian Envoy, Cuban CP Group

NC231336 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Lawyer Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, today received Australian Ambassador to Lebanon (Ross Parens) in his office at the UNESCO building. They discussed all aspects of the Lebanese situation.

Birri also received the Cuban Communist Party delegation led by Luis Valdes, who later said: We visited a fighter and mujahid and talks were held between fighters and mujahidin. We conveyed to Minister Birri the Cuban people's good wishes for his success in his noble mission. The talks were held in a fraternal atmosphere on all common problems.

Minister Birri called the prime minister and received a call from the Beirut area commander, Staff Brigadier General Muhammad al-Haj, who briefed Minister Birri on the security situation in the capital.

Birri, Soviet Envoys Discuss UNIFIL Role

NC231350 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, has visited the Soviet Embassy, where he

met with Ambassador Soldatov and Karen Brutents, chief of the Middle East department in the Soviet Foreign Ministry [title as heard].

They discussed all aspects of the Lebanese crisis, especially the UN emergency forces and the possibility of increasing their number and their security role in the south.

Birri Leaves Beirut on Visit to Damascus

NC241033 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs and minister of justice and water and electrical resources, left Beirut at 0800 today for Damascus at the invitation of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

UN Official Conveys Israeli Stand on Negotiations

NC231345 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] [UN Assistant Secretary General] Urquhart's assistant (Jean-Claude Ennu) today met with Ambassador Khalil Makkawi, Foreign Ministry acting secretary general, at the Foreign Ministry. They discussed security arrangements in the south and the UN role there.

Reports say that (Ennu) conveyed to Makkawi the Israeli Government's opposition to holding negotiations with Lebanon on the basis of the armistice agreement. Makkawi then conveyed this Israeli stand to Prime Minister Karami during their meeting at the presidential palace at noon.

Contacts To Reveal 'Fate' of 3 AP Reporters

NC241253 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Contacts are under way between the U.S. Embassy and the Journalists and Editors Associations to reveal the fate of three AP officials who were kidnapped this morning in the Barbur-al-Nuwayri area while heading to their work in a blue Plymouth. The kidnapped are Khazin 'Abbud, Nicola Shaftari, and Charles Bisharah.

Quadripartite Committee Meets in Tripoli

NC232036 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The quadripartite committee held its meeting in Tripoli at 1730 as scheduled, attended by representatives of the Lebanese Army, Internal Security Forces, Syrian intelligence, the Arab Democratic Party, and the Islamic Grouping. The following was decided during the meeting:

1. All armed roadblocks will be removed as of tomorrow, 24 October. Also, military uniforms will no longer be authorized. Security patrols will arrest and bring to account all violators;

2. The chairman of the northern coordination committee will be entrusted to contact all parties that possess advanced equipment in an effect to eliminate the remaining ramparts and fortifications to ensure [words indistinct];

3. The Quadripartite Committee has received lists of heavy-caliber and medium-caliber weapons from the Islamic Grouping and the Arab Democratic Party. The follow-up committee will examine arms depots belonging to the Islamic Unification Movement and the Arab Democratic Party at 1000 on Thursday; and

4. All permits for acquiring arms will be issued on Saturday only for officials and their escorts. This will be followed by a discussion of the steps necessary to ensure the deployment of the army.

As for the perpetrators of the massacres that were committed on Saturday, they will be executed immediately upon completion of the investigation.

Boat Laden With Ammunition Explodes in Tripoli

NC241230 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Three persons were wounded this morning in Tripoli when an explosion took place on a boat loaded with ammunition and explosives. The boat belongs to the Islamic Unification Movement.

VOAL Reports Israeli Actions in South 23 Oct

NC231417 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The Zionist occupation forces stormed Ansar Township at midnight and arrested several citizens, including Fawzi al-Ghul and 'Ali Qubaysi, taking them to the detention camp. No reason was given.

The occupation forces reinforced their positions in Al-Zahrani today by deploying more than 300 soldiers at roadblocks in the area searching vehicles and checking passengers' identity cards.

Enemy forces' bulldozers razed the gardens in the Al-Ghaziyah area this morning, including Al-Masri's gardens. The occupation forces bulldozed the public bath installations in Al-Ghaziyah in a retaliatory operation to destroy the southern economy.

Resistance Group Attacks Israeli Patrol in South

NC240646 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] A Lebanese national resistance group last night carried out an attack with automatic weapons and rockets against an Israeli occupation forces' mobile patrol on the Al-Maghdushah road, in Sidon District.

One Israeli soldier was killed, a number of others were wounded, and one vehicle was destroyed and seen on fire.

Patrol Attacked in Tyre

NC240949 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] At 0700 today, Lebanese national resistance fighters detonated an explosive device as an Israeli patrol was passing on the Hannawiyah Road, in the Tyre District. The explosion destroyed a military jeep and killed or wounded its occupants.

The occupation forces immediately brought in additional forces and combed the area firing indiscriminately.

Al-Kasm Addresses Arab Industrial Conference

JN231052 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1050 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpts] Damascus, 23 Oct (SANA) — Under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad, the sixth Arab industrial development conference on the Arab industry ministers' level opened here this morning. Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, representing President al-Asad, opened the conference.

Syrian Minister of Industry Mahmud Qaddur delivered a speech in which he welcomed the participants of the conference, and explained the effective role of the Arab industry ministers in supporting the economic base of joint Arab action and in achieving economic integration.

Qaddur stressed that Syria is experiencing a real industrial revolution. He said that production in the economic sector increased from 900 million Syrian pounds in 1970 to more than 16.5 billion Syrian pounds in 1983; industrial investments increased from 20 billion pounds in 1980 to more than 46 billion pounds in 1983; and the workers' average wage increased from 15,000 pounds to 21,800 pounds per year.

Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, prime minister and President Hafiz al-Asad's representative, delivered a speech to the conference in which he stressed the need to establish a homogeneously planned Arab industry with interrelated methods and integrated objectives to turn the Arab homeland into a great industrial base.

Dr al-Kasm pointed out that the Arab nation is waging a most sacred struggle against the Israeli enemy and its allies. This struggle must [words indistinct]. He said that since independence, Syria has always been the Arab nation's political and military front line.

Dr al-Kasm explained that Israel and the United States created the Lebanese crisis to justify expanded military interference in the region. He stressed that Syria, under President Hafiz al-Asad, is eager to find a radical solution to the Lebanese crisis. He said that Syria is also concerned about the Lebanese people's unity and territorial integrity, and about continuing to defend the Palestine question.

Concluding, Dr al-Kasm said: No one can impose peace. Peace can be achieved on clear and just bases, foremost being the termination of all forms of occupation of the Arab territories, the achievement of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to the establishment of their independent state on their national soil, and the restoration of Lebanon's security, unity, and sovereignty.

Al-Kasm Receives YSP Central Committee Member

JN231227 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1230 today, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Sulayman Nasir Muhammad, YSP Central Committee member and head of the popular national defense organization in the PDRY. Popular Army Commander Muhammad Ibrahim al-'Ali attended. At the outset of the meeting, Sulayman Nasir Muhammad conveyed Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's greetings to President Hafiz al-Asad. The talks dealt with firm bilateral cooperation, and a number of issues of mutual interest.

AL-BA'TH Raps 'Campaign' Against Ties With USSR

JN240743 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 24 Oct 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Al-Asad's Visit to Moscow is a Qualitative Stride in Relations," *AL-BA'TH* says: After a careful study of the current hostile moves in the region, one realizes that to begin implementing the second phase of the Camp David agreements through the Jordanian regime and Yasir 'Arafat, the Camp David partners must make another attempt at striking the growing Syrian position, an obstacle to implementing the plot. Now there is a new attempt at harming the Syrian-Soviet relations of struggle that were behind the cancellation of the 17 May agreement and the foiling of all the U.S.-Zionist plans in Lebanon.

The paper adds: We are not trying to answer the hostile campaign launched by the hostile media and circles tied to the U.S.-Zionist-reactionary scheme, because we are certain that this campaign against Syria and its pan-Arab course will continue to escalate as long as Syria continues to reject all Israeli-U.S. solutions. However, we would like to say that Al-Asad's visit to the USSR and his talks with Soviet leaders were more than successful. These talks realized results whose positive effects will soon appear, and which will give Syria and the Arab nation new momentum in confronting the Arab homeland's historical enemies.

Concluding its comment, *AL-BA'TH* says: While it is true that the campaign against Syria and the Soviet Union, the faithful supporter of Arab struggle, is expected to escalate, the Syrian-Soviet relations are certainly stronger than all attempts at penetrating them. These relations of struggle will soon prove that they are stronger than all hostile attempts. We also affirm that these relations of struggle, based on firm, principled ground, will realize another qualitative stride for the Arab struggle on the road to restoring usurped Arab rights and liberating all occupied Arab territories.

TISHRIN on Resisting U.S. Policy, Schemes

JN240900 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 24 Oct 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper *TISHRIN* today commented on Ronald Reagan's attack against Syria and his admission that Syria foiled the U.S. scheme in the region. *TISHRIN* says: Perhaps what Reagan did not say is more important. U.S. policy will suffer further failures and will always be resisted by Syria because it always represents Israel's schemes against the entire Arab nation. During the debate with Mondale, Reagan made it clear that he blessed and encouraged Israel's invasion of Lebanon, and

said that he is ready to bless and encourage any new Israeli adventure. In other words, the U.S. approval of Israeli expansion and aggression is increasing daily.

After affirming Syria's constant stand toward the Arab-Israeli struggle, *TISHRIN* notes that the current large-scale moves by the Camp David partners to liquidate the Palestinian cause are a serious, if not the most serious, link in the plot against the entire Arab struggle. Hence, confronting this link will require a genuine mobilization of all the nationalist Arab forces, especially since the plotters are hiding behind the slogan of Arab solidarity to justify their defeatism and cover up for their capitulation. Syria's path toward foiling the plot is clear — people's solidarity of struggle, enhancing the Arabs' own strength, and confronting plots with all the available means, which are immense.

Radio Commentary Views Reagan-Mondale Debate

JN231405 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1140 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: U.S. President Ronald Reagan and his rival Mondale have agreed on holding Syria responsible for the failure of U.S. diplomacy in Lebanon and the Middle East. The two U.S. rivals also agreed that a blow of revenge is inevitable, although Reagan and Mondale disagreed on the timing and the way it should be dealt. Reagan and Mondale disregarded the one fact in particular on which the entire world in general and U.S. public opinion are unanimous — that while the United States was rejecting truth and peace principles and replacing them with military ineptitude, it was at the same time foiling and burning its own plans with the fire power of its warships.

Syria is proud of being an obstacle to the conspiratorial U.S. plans against the Arabs. It is also proud that its steadfastness has saved Lebanon from the consequences of hostile U.S. diplomacy. However, Syria is not an obstacle to a right and just peace. Syria is an obstacle to a U.S. peace that gives Israel what it has no right to and deprives the Arabs of their rights.

Since the two rivals for the U.S. Presidency competed to show who is more faithful to Israel, the White House — regardless of who will become its master — must expect more failure and frustration in the Middle East. As Reagan was announcing to America and the world that he is waiting to complete identification of targets to be hit by U.S. strength, he in fact refuses to bear the past in mind. Mondale, who blamed his rival for not being firm against Syria and the Lebanese people, refuses to remember the reason for the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Beirut after the *New Jersey* was incapable of supporting those forces' presence on other people's territory without their approval.

Since revenge is a common denominator of the U.S. Republicans and Democrats, it means that U.S. diplomacy has not yet learned its lesson. It also means that the Arab capitulatory course that is an ally of the United States has not learned that the United States, which is incapable of implementing its strategy, is also incapable of protecting the leaders of that course in Amman, Cairo, and Baghdad. Since the United States surprised its Arab friends with the Congress'recommendation to move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, and since that friendship is unbalanced, because the Arab allies believe that the United States is the protector of their regimes while the United States believes that these allies are mere agents, not friends, the United States must expect many pains similar to those inflicted by the peoples of Central and Latin America.

We in Damascus know that Reagan's tacit threat, supported by Mondale, has taken the role of the Arab renegades in supporting U.S. terrorism into consideration. But what has the United States offered to the Arab cause which its allies can use as a cover in frontof the Arab masses? We in Damascus are confident of our ability to confront any situation. We are also confident that the United States has exposed its allies and placed them on the firing line in front of Israeli ambitions to expand, at the expense of any Arab territory, and in front of the popular masses lying in wait to take revenge on those who threaten their right to wage their battle against their enemies.

The United States under the leadership of any party must realize that the policy of force will not be adopted by one party only. It must also understand that truth must triumph, that identification of agents is reciprocal, and that he who starts evil will share more blame than the other.

Peres' 23 Oct Remarks to Knesset Reported

TA232005 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] This evening Prime Minister Shim'on Peres concluded the Knesset economic debate with a hard-hitting speech in which he rejected the opposition's criticism of the government's economic policy. Mr Peres repeated that, as part of the economic program, the government will be scrupulous about not increasing unemployment. Our Knesset correspondent Ya'aqov Ahime'ir has summed up the debate and brought us excerpts from the prime minister's speech.

[Begin recording] [Ahime'ir] Well, the Knesset is now listening to proposals concluding the economic-political debate that has taken place in the Knesset over the past 2 days. We have heard concluding proposals by MAPAM, Tehiya, and now Knesset Member [MK] Charlie Biton of HADASH is presenting his faction's concluding proposal.

But Shim'on Peres, the prime minister, defined the main economic targets, from his viewpoint, as: trying to reduce inflation through national agreement; and negotiating with the Histadrut. Negotiation requires patience, the prime minister said. Shim'on Peres' second goal, as he defined it in his concluding speech, is a renewal of growth. Shim'on Peres warned Israelis, however, that the interim period, until the economy is completely healed, will be a terrible period. A great deal of patience is required for this, the prime minister said.

Altogether, this has been a hard-hitting and firm speech by the prime minister, a speech that lasted until about 20 minutes ago in the Knesset, and it was a completely different speech from the one he made yesterday at the opening of this debate. Shim'on Peres' speech this time was in response to many hours of sharp criticism against him, including from among members of the coalition factions. The prime minister was given advice in the Knesset from all sides.

This evening he expressed doubts as to whether it was only an economic program that could bring relief to the sicknesses of the economy and solve all the problems. But the prime minister, of course, is aiming at yet another goal, or so we gained the impression: to work toward full employment in Israel. The main dispute was conducted by the prime minister with his previous partners, MAPAM. This is what the prime minister said a few minutes ago — Words are not a solution, not a magic charm.

[Peres — picked up in midsentence] ... not a Churchillian speech; we will get up tomorrow morning, everything will be solved. No more problems. Victor Shem-Tov, I have been prime minister for 38 days. I went to the United States, without words, and asked for investments, and this is not so pleasant. I asked for money, and in contrast to what MK Abba Eban said in his excellent speech, I appealed to the Jews. I am also issuing an appeal in Israel. That is my task. What are words?

Have I been idle for 38 days? I have made speeches from morning to night and, believe me, that is what occupies me, that there should not be unemployment, that there should not be bankruptcies, that the university in Beersheba should open, that Ata [textile firm on the brink of bankruptcy] should not go bankrupt with 1,500 senior workers, people of the first rank who have given it their whole lives. There are younger people there, there are more senior ones, it is 2,500, if I can correct the figure. Do you think that one's heart does not break?

What did you want and what are you doing? Not words. If we were both to speak, would the problems be solved? If, instead of 10 minutes, we both had 30 minutes, what good would it do? The conclusion is that, for support, you must recruit resources, and in order to prevent unemployment, you have to reduce wages so that there will be enough money to pay everyone and also a little to invest in the economy, and this is the truth.

Am I accusing? After all, Victor [Shem-Tov] accused me in words. Did I accuse Victor in words? Did I say a word? [uproar in Knesset] To the Knesset Member, I am a member of the Histadrut; I am a member of the Histadrut and I will propose to the Histadrut to [further uproar in Knesset obscuring remainder of sentence]. I am a member of the Histadrut and I do not scorn words; I do not scorn any word, not from the opposition and not from the government. I just want to say, as a member of the Histadrut, as a member of the Labor Party, I will recommend that the workers, too, give their share so that there will not be unemployment in the country. [end recording]

On Territories, Egypt

TA232117 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] From the Knesset's rostrum today the prime minister defended U.S. entrepreneurs who plan to invest money in the territories. He asked why the Likud members are disturbed over this issue, why they are so upset. He asked the Likud people why they should care that an Arab bank is established in the territories. He pointed out that, after all, there are 90,000 workers who come to work in Israel from the territories and there may be unemployed people among them soon. Peres asked: What is bad, then, about the investment of foreign capital in the territories in order to prevent unemployment?

Peres reemphasized that he wants a resumption of relations with Egypt, saying that despite the criticism leveled at his numerous meetings with the Egyptian charge d'affaires in Tel Aviv, he will still meet with him a thousand more times, if necessary.

Further Reportage

TA240659 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] At the end of a 9-hour debate, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres delivered his concluding address on political and economic issues, replying to complaints and proposals made by coalition and opposition Knesset Members. Here is a report from the Knesset by our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami:

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres yesterday settled accounts with colleagues and adversaries. Dur-

ing most of the 2-day debate, the prime minister jotted down his comments and remarks, and at the conclusion of the debate he replied to — sometimes nearly lashed out at — most of the speakers, primarily those who complained that he and the Cabinet are not presenting an economic plan.

[Peres] I am not afraid of those who attribute to a plan the magic of a 24-hour panacea.

[Ben-'Ami] The prime minister listed a host of European countries that worked out economic plans to help heal their economies and which are still embroiled in economic crises, including failing currency and massive unemployment. I went to the United States in a bid to halt the destruction of our economy and to help the economy grow by investments, Shim'on Peres said, and enumerated the great expense involved in conducting state affairs today, including security, the economy, and welfare. The prime minister provided a response to the objectives the government has set for itself:

[Peres] To limit the number of workers in services, increase the number of workers in production, and convert the entire economy — not just parts of it — from a traditional economy to one based on science and technology.

[Ben-'Ami] It is easy to come to the Knesset and solve the problems by way of legislation, but if you want a dialogue with the Histadrut and the employers, you need patience, the prime minister said.

On the political plain, Shim'on Peres stated that Husayn and Mubarak did not authorize anyone to present their position on Israel. One should not count the number of meetings the prime minister has held with Egyptian representatives. As for our relations with the Arabs of Judaea and Samaria, why be strict for the sake of strictness? Why not establish an Arab bank? Why refrain from building a hospital in Ramallah?

[Peres] The question of the quality of life in the territories is linked to the matter of my quality of life as a Jew. I do not want to make things cumbersome and impose greater difficulties. As far as security is concerned, yes; there is no room for compromise there. It is not at all in my interest, however, to portray Israel as a country imposing difficulties. The political solution will be possible under a truly free atmosphere the moment there is no more terrorism in the territories.

[Ben-'Ami] The conclusion of the prime minister's speech last night again focused attention on matters which face all of us as a camp that must be united:

[Peres] A camp of tolerant people who realize that this country is bogged down by an enormous crisis. No speech or 28-clause plan will be able to save us. What we need is the tireless work of raising funds, goodwill, negotiations with the Histadrut and the employers, as well as with the employees — through incisive criticism, as befits a democratic regime. This will not scare me, nor will it raise my blood pressure. My colleagues and myself as well as everyone else will work day and night for the business at hand so that this society and this economy will flourish, as they should. [end recording]

That was the prime minister in a vigorous and strong address, at the conclusion of which, by a majority vote, the Knesset adopted the coalition factions' proposal and voted for the prime minister's announcement.

Details of Economic Package Deal Reported

TA231311 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Telephone talk between newreel's moderator Tzvi Lidar and economic affairs correspondent Gadi Sukenik — live]

[Text] [Lidar] The package deal to freeze wages and prices and to curb inflation will be effected in shekels and will not be linked to the U.S. dollar. This was decided this morning by the prime minister, the Bank of Israel governor, the economic ministers and their aides. The debates on the plan to curb inflation are subsequently going into high gear now. Our correspondent on economic affairs Gadi Sukenik is currently talking to us by phone from the prime minister's office. Shalom to you, Gadi.

[Sukenik] Shalom.

[Lidar] Perhaps you could elaborate a little about what was decided in the meeting today.

[Sukenik] At the beginning of the debate at the prime minister's office, Finance Minister Moda'i and Bank of Israel Governor Moshe Mandelbaum submitted an unambiguous recommendation to embrace the shekel package deal, namely, to freeze wages and prices in the economy. That is, the workers will give up part of their wages and the manufacturers will forego some of the price hikes and profits. The shekel version of the package deal was chosen over a linkage to the dollar. Indeed, this was the decision that was adopted at the end of the 2 and 1/2 hour meeting.

The shekel version is based mainly on the principles put forth by former Bank of Israel Governors Zanbar and Gafni, who attended the meeting at the prime minister's office along with the economics and planning ministers, several directors general of ministries, and other economic advisers. This version mainly states that only two-thirds of the cost of living increase in the economy in the next few months will be paid. Wages and prices will be frozen, apparently for 6 months, although a more immediate move is being considered — that of effecting the freeze for 6 weeks, during which we will receive no compensation at all, or perhaps just a small compensation for the price hikes — and there will definitely be price hikes. The second stage of the freeze will be examined later; this stage will be in effect at least for 4 to 6 months.

[Lidar] Gadi, you say there will be price hikes. I understand that there will be additional complementary measures. We have heard some reactions to the effect that the freeze is not sufficient to change the situation and curb inflation.

[Sukenik] Yes, there will certainly be some complementary measures but these were not discussed in today's meeting. Only the gist of the plan to curb inflation was discussed, the so-called

package deal to freeze wages and prices. This was the only subject discussed today. All the experts agree that, simultaneously and before the freeze goes into effect, it will be necessary to make a final decision to effect an additional cut in the state budget to the tune of at least $0.5 billion. This cut will of course have an impact on all of us, in terms of price hikes on products and services. There will be no freeze on the rate of exchange while the package deal is in effect because, among other things, it is impossible to freeze the prices of imported goods. Since the proposed linkage to the dollar has been dropped, the devaluation will apparently continue at the same pace of inflation.

There is no doubt — and this must be made clear — that there will be no immediate and dramatic drop in the rate of inflation. According to estimates voiced during the meeting — maybe we should initially note that the prime minister hopes and wants to effect the freeze of prices and wages as early as 1 November, namely, within a few days, and the debates will therefore proceed at the pace called for by this decision — if the freeze is imposed in November, there is no doubt that inflation will not drop that fast since there are marginal and not so marginal factors that influence the rise of prices. According to Zanbar's estimate voiced during the meeting, inflation will rise by 10 percent. Treasury officials are more pessimistic. They believe that prices — that is, the Consumer Price Index that will be published on 15 November — will rise by 10 percent or more, perhaps 20 to 21 percent.

During the meeting, the economics and planning minister said he believes the economic policy being implemented at present is not sufficiently audacious. He said that inflation will not be curbed by such an economic package deal only, and that at most it will make prices rise by 400 percent instead of 800 percent annually. Minister Ya'aqobi noted that a bolder policy is required, one that would create a dramatic change, and that additional measures should be adopted so that the Israeli currency may be replaced within a few months.

As far as is known, the Treasury is currently not thrilled about a decision to institute a new Israeli currency. At least some Treasury officials think that if inflation drops dramatically in the next few months as a result of the freeze, the budget cuts, the reduction of credit, and other measures, it will be possible to go on using the good — I would not say good but I would say the old and familiar shekel.

[Lidar] In any event, we have missed on the zuz and the sela' [coins used in Biblical times and which had been suggested as replacement for the shekel]. Allow me another question, Gadi. What happens next? What are the next steps in terms of meetings and decisions?

[Sukenik] Well, since the general trend has been resolved the debates will continue in high gear this evening. Apparently at around 1900 this evening, the reduced team — composed of representatives of the government, the Histadrut and the employers — will be meeting. Each of these sectors is represented by two persons. The government is represented by the directors general of the Finance Ministry and the Economics and Planning Ministry; these representatives will brief the representatives of the Histadrut and the employers about the initial details of the decision. These latter representatives will then brief their respective institutions so they can hear what the decision is all about straight from the horse's mouth.

At 2000, Prime Minister Peres will convene the six-minister team in his office. This team is supposed to represent the government in the so-called socioeconomic council. This team will deal with the same issue, that of consolidating the tripartite economic package deal. In the meeting, Prime Minister Peres will report to the ministers who were not present at this morning's session about the decision that was adopted. Apparently as early as tomorrow evening, the tripartite negotiations between the Histadrut, the government and the employers will begin in earnest. These negotiations will no doubt last at least through next week with the aim of reaching decisions in November.

If I may make an assessment, the deliberations will last until at least the end of next week and perhaps even beyond that. The original proposals that will be raised in the deliberations will change several times over in the course of the negotiations.

Additional Details

TA231653 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] According to the economic plan now being formulated by the Finance Ministry and the prime minister, salaries and prices will be frozen for at least 4 months. Each month the workers will receive only two-thirds of the cost-of-living increment, but the tax brackets will be expanded to provide them with partial compensation. The exchange rate will not be frozen and devaluations will continue in accordance with the inflation rate. After 6 weeks, the Cabinet may reexamine the situation and decide to raise the prices of commodities. The plan will be implemented beginning next month.

At the same time, the state budget will be cut by a sum equal to $2 billion. A cut of $800 million was already agreed on several weeks ago. A cut of another $0.5 billion, most of it coming from government activities, will be agreed on within a few weeks. Some $300 million will be subtracted from the subsidies budget and the remainder will be saved as a result of the drop in salaries and slowing-down of inflation. These cuts will cause the dismissals of thousands of workers in the public services. For the moment, the experts do not know by what percent inflation will drop. It is also expected that during discussions over the next few days, changes will be made to the program.

Histadrut Secretary Displeased

TA231835 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The Histadrut secretary general has expressed his displeasure with the steep rise in the prices of basic commodities. He emphasized that the government is mistaken if it believes negotiations can be conducted on a package deal against the background of additional erosion in salaries. Yisra'el Qeysar charges that the government has joined the group of profiteers in the country. He emphasized that the salaried workers will not

agree to being the only victim of the absence of an economic plan by the government.

Ya'aqobi on Additional Steps

TA232057 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Interview with Economics and Planning Minister Gad Ya'aqobi by economic affairs correspondent Hayim Platner "a short while ago"; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Platner — picked up in progress] ...additional moves?

[Ya'aqobi] There is no doubt that the package deal can provide a feeling of everyone — the Histadrut, the employers and the government — joining together to tackle the task of rescuing the Israeli economy from its dire condition. This feeling is very important today. However, if a series of moves, of additional measures, including decreasing the government's expenditures or the state's budget, decreasing the volume of credit on the economy and an additional absorption of funds in a manner which will not lead to a rise in prices [incomplete sentence as heard].

[Platner] For instance?

[Ya'aqobi] For instance by way of selling lands of housing units which are already inhabited, of selling state lands in densely-populated areas, of imposing a tax on luxurious apartments which cost more than $200,000. It seems to me that if additional measures — first and foremost a decrease in government expenditures — are not adopted, we may still face an inflationary eruption once the package deal is completed. Therefore, the package deal is important, but it is insufficient unless accompanied by additional measures in the framework of a clear, consistent, and anti-inflationary economic policy.

[Platner] As for the eruption you mentioned, experts claim that it will be very difficult to control prices with regard to a shekel package deal, and that in fact prices will gallop again after 2 months and inflation will race ahead.

[Ya'aqobi] There is no doubt it is difficult to control prices. I am not a great believer in the possibility of controlling prices in an administrative manner. I believe it is economic processes which will determine matters. If the amount of money in the economy declines, if the government's expenditures decrease, if the cost of work decreases in the wake of the package deal, if the income tax and national insurance rates are decreased, then there may be a general drop of prices on the Israeli economy.

[Platner] Incidentally, before talking of a decrease in taxes we hear about a salary erosion. The feeling is that it is the salaried workers who are paying the highest price in this package deal.

[Ya'aqobi] There is no doubt that such a high rate of inflation as we are experiencing in Israel today causes an erosion in the wage earners' salary in real terms. As a result, the thrust of the package deal is based not on a decrease in real wages but a decrease in overall wages, so as to decrease the cost of work on one hand, and to compensate the workers by decreasing taxes on the other.

[Platner] The question, Mr Ya'aqobi, is when will we see the light at the end of the tunnel. When will inflation begin to drop?

[Ya'aqobi] I do not think anyone can sign an insurance policy in this context. I believe that if all correct moves are adopted, if a package deal is implemented as part of a general economic policy, and if additional measures are introduced, we will then witness a drop in the rate of inflation. This drop will last a few months before we reach a significant turning point following which, if this policy is adhered to, in 1 or 2 years we will reach a rate of inflation which will allow the economy to function reasonably. I believe we should be prepared for a long period of fierce struggle against this ill which has come to prevail in the State of Israel, and which is destroying the economy and perhaps also the society here.

Commodity Subsidies Approved

TA240924 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0842 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The Knesset Finance Committee has approved an addition of approximately 11 billion shekels to the Finance Ministry budget as a supplement to the subsidies for basic commodities. The Treasury's representative said at the debate that the subsidies for milk reach 95 percent; for eggs — 110 percent; and for frozen poultry — 113 percent.

Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the supplementary subsidies for the state budget was adopted by a majority vote. Three Likud Knesset members — Kaufman, Shitrit, and Tikhon — voted against, and demanded a full committee debate on the subsidies policy. A decision to hold such a debate was consequently adopted. Our correspondent notes that the Knesset Finance Committee is currently reviewing an Energy Ministry request to raise electricity prices by 30 percent, retroactive to September.

Prices Rise by 24-95 Percent

TA231736 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The prices of subsidized basic commodities are to go up tonight by 24 to 95 percent. Bread, cooking oil, margarine, eggs, and dairy products are going up by 24 percent, the assumed [meshu'ar] rate of last month's rise in the cost-of-living index. [as heard; actual cost of living increase was 21.4 percent] Frozen meat is to go up by 90 percent and frozen poultry by 95 percent.

It was explained to our economic correspondent Gadi Sukenik that it had been decided to raise greatly the price of frozen meat in order to decrease imports, save foreign currency, and permit competition among Israeli growers. A senior economic minister has already sharply criticized the decision.

Frozen poultry has become increasingly more expensive because the Finance Ministry chose to decrease its subsidy to 25 percent, as it did over the past 2 months with margarine and cooking oil.

Some commodities are still subsidized by more than 100 percent and the Finance Ministry intends within a few months to reach a subsidy level of 25 percent, except for public transport, water, and bread.

Meat Price Hike Rolled Back

TA240758 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Meat prices went up 24 percent this morning, not 95 percent as originally decided. The increase was cut back at the insistence of Deputy Prime Minister David Levi. Other subsidized food items also went up 24 percent. In the late-night meeting of Israeli Cabinet ministers, Levi charged that whoever initiated the 95-percent increase in frozen meat prices was trying to sabotage package deal negotiations with the Histadrut. Levi called the large hike unjustified. In the end he won, and the increase was rolled back to 24 percent. Ministerial consultations continue today.

Treasury Experts Raise Doubts

TA240941 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Oct 84 p 2

[Report by economic correspondent Avi Temkin]

[Excerpts] The economic plan adopted by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres's government yesterday is unlikely to lower inflation, economic experts on Treasury Director-General 'Imanu'el Sharon's committee said. "There is simply no mechanism to prevent prices from going up," they said. The plan was one of the alternatives presented by the task force headed by Sharon and appointed to prepare a comprehensive economic plan. The second scheme, rejected by the ministers, was based on a semi-dollarization that would have pegged the economy to the dollar while leaving the shekel as legal tender.

Treasury officials yesterday expressed serious doubts about the chances that the ministers will approve the budget cuts the Treasury wishes to implement. The officials also predicted that the government will have to fight an uphill battle to persuade the Histadrut to agree to any of its proposals.

According to economic observers in Jerusalem, the government will have to try very hard to convince the labour federation to accept a package deal that includes a rapid erosion of wages and a programme of extensive lay-offs in the public sector. The observers pointed out that the Histadrut leadership is facing elections in six months and that therefore it is unrealistic to expect it to agree to the proposed deal.

Press Comment on Measures

TA240854 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] *DAVAR* says that over the last 2 months the salaried person's income has been eroded by at least 20 percent. In addition to this, a real increase in family spending is expected as a result of the state budget cuts, which link various services to a high price. In such a state of affairs, it will be difficult *a priori* for the Histadrut, as the representative of the salaried worker, to accept additional concessions while no other economic stratum has contributed anything toward the common goal of bringing about economic improvement. The seize-the-day campaign, as the paper calls it, on the eve of the crucial deliberations on a package deal, is neither honorable nor fully considered. Even authoritarian regimes such as Egypt and Morocco were forced to go back on similar moves due to popular agitation. In effect, yesterday evening the government did precisely what has lately been done by manufacturers, and has won them public criticism: In anticipation of a partial freeze, the Cabinet drastically raised prices. This, incidentally, contributed to raising the four-digit inflation rate, which it was expected to lower.

THE JERUSALEM POST writes that the national unity government was expected to come up with a comprehensive program and audacious decisions to save the economy from collapse. Yesterday's decision to adopt the Zanbar-Gafni plan for a package deal, with further budget cuts to be spaced out over 2-3 years, is neither comprehensive nor audacious. It is a reversal of the gradualist tactics and the attempts to muddle through which have characterized all the governments that preceded the present one.

Many professionals who have labored at economic recovery programs have recommended the adoption of a form of semi-dollarization meant to put the cards on the table and make it clear what sacrifice is required and who shall bear what share. Their advice has been rejected. The government insists on keeping a few aces up its sleeve, to be slammed on the table when the game goes against it. The government has missed a golden opportunity to set the economy on a path of recovery and stabilization. It has thereby threatened its own future as well. In the prevailing political stalemate which led to its establishment, such failure will jeopardize our democratic system itself, by encouraging those who seek a strongman to restore order.

HATZOFE writes that handling the economic problems will be difficult and various steps will affect the individual's standard of living, as required by an economic emergency situation. In his Knesset speech, the prime minister called on the public to demonstrate economic patriotism. This is really the feeling that should prevail in the economy during the period of emergency that will involve painful yet necessary measures. The call to economic patriotism has appeared to the public to have been coordinated so that the imposition of another burden on it constitutes part of a real economic recovery plan to which all the components are equal partners.

Peres Again Seeking Meeting With Mubarak

TA231023 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Oct 84 p 1

['Aqiva Eldar report]

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres is examining the possibility of holding a meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak,

shortly after his first appeal to confer with the president was turned down on the excuse that the Tabah issue must be settled first.

The prime minister yesterday granted an audience to the Egyptian charge d'affaires, Muhammad Basyuni. The meeting lasted approximately 30 minutes and was also attended by Minister 'Ezer Weizman.

The prime minister's office did not disclose details of the contents of the meeting, but it has been learned that the possibility of a summit meeting between Peres and Mubarak and initiatives to thaw the freeze in bilateral relations were discussed.

Defense Minister Rabin Tours Central Command

TA231650 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1535 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Tel Aviv, 23 Oct (ITIM) — Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin was the guest today of the Central Command. The minister heard reviews from the Command's commander and from IDF officers, and later toured the Jordan border area, from the Jordan valley to the Allenby bridge.

In the course of the visit the minister met with heads of local councils in the Bet She'an valley region and the Jordan valley.

The defense minister was escorted by Chief of Staff Moshe Levi and the commander of the Central Command, Major General Amnon Lipkin.

Rejects Land Requests

TA231830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The defense minister has rejected the request by the heads of settlements in the Jordan Rift valley and the Bet She'an valley to expand their arable land areas near the Jordan River. He attributed this to budgetary constraints, given the funding that would be required for the necessary security arrangements. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that Yitzhaq Rabin has announced he will establish a team to examine the possibility of moving security plants to Bet She'an to increase employment.

Rabin Addresses UJA Group in Jerusalem

Syria Seen Ready To Talk

TA231950 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1939 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said this evening that Syria is prepared to hold an indirect dialogue with Israel via the United States so as to reach arrangements which will guarantee security for the Galilee and enable the withdrawal of the IDF forces from Lebanon. In a speech to the United Jewish Appeal people from the United States the defense minister said the Syrians today have reasons to reach an understanding with Israel regarding the necessary security arrangements. Yitzhaq Rabin says that following the U.S. presidential elections, the Americans will work more energetically toward the achievement of an agreement in Lebanon which will include Syria, Lebanon, UNIFIL, and the army of southern Lebanon.

Lebanon, Syria Goals Stated

TA240525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says he believes the Syrians are ready to negotiate indirectly with Israel through the good offices of the United States on security arrangements in Lebanon. Rabin was speaking about Israel's defense policy before a UJA [United Jewish Appeal] mission in Jerusalem last night. Ruth Blaukopf reports:

Sketching in what he called Israel's defense picture, Mr Rabin was at pains to detail the array of Arab military force facing Israel. But even the awesome data which put Syria's tank force in excess of anything the British, French, or West Germans could muster could not, Rabin said, change the fact that the defense budget will have to be reduced, along with many other elements of government spending.

Rabin did not elaborate on the nature of such cuts, or what the defense priorities would be, but his appeal to the assembled UJA audience for the continued help of American and world Jewry was implicit.

Turning to Israel's defense aims, Rabin affirmed the determination of the national unity government to extricate Israel from Lebanon:

[Begin Rabin recording] This is the only goal that we seek in Lebanon. Security on one hand, and not to be there on the other hand. [end recording]

With this in mind, the defense minister went on to express optimism over the prospects for what he called a compact of understanding, involving the Syrians, Lebanese, and UNIFIL.

Rabin stressed that Israel must be prepared to engage in negotiations, even if these were indirect ones, and to content itself with security arrangements alone.

As for the Syrian presence in Lebanon, Rabin was equally prepared for compromise.

[Begin Rabin recording] I don't mind that the Syrians will stay where they are as long as they'll not move to the south. We all learn the hard way. Whoever sets his foot in Lebanon sinks in the Lebanese mud. We want to be out of it. [end recording]

The defense minister did not omit the rationale behind his thinking about Syria, noting with more than a little regret that both Israel and the United States had ignored Syria in the original efforts to obtain the May 17th accord with Lebanon — an error which Rabin said had produced an agreement which was a dead letter from the moment of its signing.

Main Problems Economy, Security

TA240602 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2145 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Jerusalem, 23 Oct (ITIM) — Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has called on Syria to negotiate — through the United States — arrangements for the security of the Galilee and the northern border in order to allow the IDF to leave Lebanon. Mr Rabin was addressing a 400-member delegation of the United Jewish Appeal [UJA] from the United States at the Jerusalem Hilton.

Mr Rabin said that the Lebanese Government could also reach arrangements with Israel, and that UNIFIL could play a role in this alignment.

In the opinion of the defense minister, after the presidential elections the United States will step up its activity aimed at reaching an arrangement that will include Israel, Syria, Lebanon, UNIFIL, and the army of southern Lebanon. All this will be done in order to obtain stability along Israel's northern border like that which has existed for years both along the Jordanian border and on the Golan Heights, which borders on Syria.

Mr Rabin said that the war in Lebanon has resulted in a deep chasm among the Israeli people and noted that at present it is agreed, as stipulated in the basic guidelines of the national unity government, that efforts should concentrate on ensuring peace for the Galilee in the north together with a withdrawal from "the Lebanese quaqmire."

In his address, Mr Rabin noted that Israel is faced with two major problems — the economy and security. He added that economically Israel has found itself embroiled in difficulties because of "mistakes we committed above and beyond the current, everyday problems." Among them he mentioned the defense burden, pointing out that Israel encounters 2 million soldiers armed with state of the art Soviet arms in the Arab countries hostile to Israel. These countries have an aggregate defense budget nearing $24 billion — six times that of Israel, including U.S. aid.

Rabin Says Lavi Project Depends on U.S. Aid

TA231144 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Oct 84 p 1

[Re'uven Pedatzur report]

[Excerpt] "If the U.S. Administration decides to stop aid for the Lavi project and does not agree to convert the allocated aid into shekels in order to develop the aircraft or help in the production stages, the State of Israel will be compelled to stop the Lavi project and actually give up on it," Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stated in a recent debate with the Israeli Aircraft Industry [IAI] on the issue of the Lavi.

The implication of the minister's remarks is that the future of the Lavi project now actually depends on the goodwill of the U.S. Administration, rather than on a decision of the Israeli Government.

The defense minister also pointed out that the State of Israel has so far invested $550 million in the Lavi project and that an additional $250 million from the aid allocated for this year has been committed to it. According to the defense minister, such a large investment means that we have passed the point of no return on this project.

The actual meaning of the minister's remarks is that even if the Defense Ministry concludes that the defense contribution to the Lavi is minimal, it will not decide to abandon the project.

According to the defense minister, Israel will not be able to export the Lavi because of the restrictions the Americans will impose on our exports. As may be recalled, according to the agreement between the United States and Israel, the latter will not be able to export the Lavi without U.S. approval, due to the fact that the aircraft includes U.S.-made components, the most outstanding being the engine. In Rabin's opinion, we should learn the lesson of Israel's failure in exporting the IAI-produced Kfir aircraft and apply it to the future production of the Lavi.

Armacost Continues Talks With Leaders

Confers With Rabin

TA231020 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 23 Oct 84 p 2

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin yesterday elaborated on the plan to improve the quality of life in the West Bank in a meeting with U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost, who is currently on a get-acquainted visit to Israel following his assignment to his present post.

In response to a question on this issue by the U.S. visitor, Rabin noted that improving the quality of life in the West Bank is a beneficial move, both from the socioeconomic and security points of view. The opening of a bank in the West Bank, Rabin noted, would enable the flow of funds and the development of projects for the welfare of the inhabitants. Rabin also mentioned the improvement in health services in the West Bank and the replacement of Jewish mayors with Arab ones.

On the issue of Lebanon, the defense minister noted the important role the United States could play in the negotiations with Syria. As for the negotiations with Lebanon, Rabin noted that UNIFIL could play an assisting role.

Discusses Withdrawal With Peres

TA231515 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1325 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The U.S.- Israeli Joint Economic Development Group is to begin work in the next few weeks. This was said by Michael Armacost, U.S. under secretary of state for political affairs upon emerging from a 1-hour meeting with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres. Armacost discussed with the prime minister Israeli-Egyptian relations and ways to achieve an IDF withdrawal from Lebanon. Reacting to the report about a Jewish-Arab group

working in the United States to improve the conditions of life of Arabs in the territories, Armacost said this was a group of private businessmen and he does not know how much they can do to help.

U.S. Jewish, Arab Businessmen To Aid West Bank Arabs

TA230909 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 23 Oct 84 pp 1, 11

['Oded Granot report from Washington]

[Text] A secret private group unprecedented in both its scope and objectives, consisting of Jewish and Arab businessmen in the United States whose goal is to promote the economic growth of the Arabs of the West Bank, has recently been granted the "tacit approval" of the governments of Israel, Jordan, and the United States.

The activities of this group have so far been kept secret, although officials in Jerusalem, Amman, and the U.S. State Department had been aware of its existence. The Jewish members of the group include well-known personalities such as Howard Squadron, the former chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. The Arab members of the group include Najib Halabi, King Husayn's father-in-law.

Halabi conferred with senior officials in Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' entourage in New York — and perhaps even with the prime minister himself — and briefed them on the activities of the group. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz mentioned the existence and activities of the group to the prime minister during their meeting in Washington.

Last week, the Israeli Government allowed a delegation of Palestinian notables from the territories to travel to New York to meet the members of the group in order to describe the situation in the field and submit their requests for the establishment of various economic enterprises. The West Bank delegation conferred with the businessmen in New York for 2 days and then returned to Israel.

Last Thursday, four members of the Jewish-Arab group left for Washington in order to report to U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost about their talks with the Arab notables from the territories.

This is the first time that Jewish and Arab investors and private businessmen in the United States have assembled for the purpose of raising funds to help the inhabitants of the territories. This is also the first time that such a group has received the "seal of approval" and blessing of the Israeli, Jordanian, and U.S. Governments.

The group convened approximately 18 months ago and has since then held a series of secret debates on ways to encourage economic growth in the territories and subsequently create a local leadership. The activities of the group were zealously kept secret, particularly during the tenure of the previous Israeli Government, because they were incompatible with the views of the Shamir government insofar as the political risks entailed in the promotion of economic growth of the inhabitants of the territories were concerned. However, upon the establishment of the government headed by Shim'on Peres, a "common denominator" — and it would seem that a certain degree of coordination as well — was found between government officials and members of the group. One of the points held in common is the willingness to authorize the flow of Jordanian funds into Judaea and Samaria while firmly opposing the funneling of PLO money into the territories. The interests of Israel, Jordan, and the United States converged on this latter point.

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres apparently favors the activities of this private group because he believes Jordanian influence in the territories must be promoted while that of the PLO must be curbed.

None of the investors and private businessmen consented to reveal any details whatsoever about the activities of the group to the *MA'ARIV* correspondent in Washington. Some of them emphasized that any publicity on this issue would adversely affect the chances of realizing their objectives.

Conversations conducted by the *MA'ARIV* correspondent with various people lead to the impression that this is definitely a private group created through the initiative of private persons and was not initiated by the governments. However, from the moment this group emerged it has had the blessing of the U.S. State Department, which considers it a means for promoting the efforts of Secretary of State Shultz "to improve the quality of life in the West Bank."

U.S. State Department officials have been assisting the members of the group, particularly with information on the economic needs of the inhabitants of the territories and the operational possibilities in the various sectors.

So far, the group plans to raise funds for the establishment of several enterprises in the territories (some of which were also mentioned by the prime minister in his meeting with the U.S. secretary of state). Some of the projects mentioned are an Arab bank in the territories, a hospital, a pharmaceutical plant, and a cement plant.

It has been learned that at some stage the group had been toying with the idea of coming to Israel to examine closely the possibilities for economic development in Judaea and Samaria. However, it was ultimately decided that it would be better to meet the Palestinian representatives in the United States.

Peres' Talks Confirmed

TA240931 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Oct 84 p 1

[David Richardson and Robert Rosenberg report]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Peres met representatives of a group of prominent American Jewish and Arab businessmen who are trying to promote industrial investment in the West Bank during his visit to New York earlier this month, the prime minister's office confirmed yesterday.

Visiting U.S. Under Secretary of State Michael Armacost acknowledged the existence of the group, but stressed that it is a private initiative.

Peres met with Howard Squadron, a lawyer and former president of the American Jewish Congress and former Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, and with Najib Halabi, a prominent Lebanese-American businessman and father of Queen Nur of Jordan.

The meeting was arranged by the former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, according to officials in Jerusalem. Vance is apparently among the prime movers of the group, which has been active for more than a year.

Shamir Scores Peres' Support

TA230911 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says that the reports that Shim'on Peres agrees with and understands the U.S. Jews who are organizing to assist development projects in Judaea and Samaria are very strange. Sources close to Yitzhaq Shamir told our political correspondent that Shamir knew of the group's formation under the leadership of Howard Squadron, the former chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. However, Shamir has not encouraged this activity as he believes it does not coincide with Israel's national interests. Yitzhaq Shamir says that it is strange that in a time of economic crisis in Israel, Jews are organizing to develop Arab areas which have experienced economic growth since 1967, and which are receiving financial aid from Saudi Arabia and the PLO.

Jordanian Activity in Territories Reported

TA221228 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 22 Oct 84 p 3

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Text] The man who may be appointed mayor of Nabulus returned on 20 October from Amman, where he conferred with Jordanian officials about the possibility of his being appointed mayor by the Civilian Administration.

He conferred with, among others, 'Adnan Abu 'Awda, who for many years was the minister in charge of the territories. Our correspondent has learned that Jordanian officials told the man that Jordan's preference is for the mayors to all be appointed at the same time and in all places where Israelis have been performing that function, not just in Nabulus. The Jordanian officials also told him that before welcoming this move, they must consult with the PLO. Our correspondent says that the man was one of the participants in a dialogue with the Alignment — while the latter was an opposition party — and he coordinated his Alignment contacts both with Jordan and the PLO. Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] himself instructed him to continue his contacts with the Alignment.

Posters opposing his candidacy appeared in the streets of Nabulus, with the intention of deterring him from this move. The dismissed mayor of Nabulus, Bassam al-Shak'ah, opposes this move. He considers himself the legal mayor, as he was elected by the residents. The guard near Bassam al-Shak'ah's house has recently been resumed.

The security establishment recently decided not to allow the establishment of a cement factory in the territories, as this will affect the cement industry in Israel. In talks which included economists, it was explained that the Israeli Nesher cement plant was also not allowed to open a new quarry because of fears of an economic recession which would affect the construction industry. In these discussions two rules for approving industrial plants in the territories were worked out: The first one is that a plant in the territories must not harm the Israeli economy and the second is that the plant must not affect security.

Our correspondent has learned that a group of Austrian investors was interested in establishing the cement factory. As far as is known, it was the former Austrian chancellor, Bruno Kreisky, who suggested that they invest in the development of the territories. Now that the cement factory has not been approved, the group of Austrian investors may decide to invest elsewhere.

One of the rich Arabs interested in establishing an Arab bank, whose main branch will be in Nabulus, will leave for Amman soon. This group has already agreed that the Bank of Israel will monitor the bank's activities.

The group of Arab investors received a questionnaire from the bank supervisor, in which they were asked to list the capital resources of the bank and the kinds of activities it will engage in, and return it within 3 weeks. The purpose of the visit by the Arab investor from Nabulus to Amman may be to show the questionnaire to Amman as well.

West Bank Laywers To Set Up Own Association

TA221730 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1650 GMT 22 Oct 84

[Text] Nabulus, 22 Oct (ITIM) — Seventy-seven lawyers from Judaea and Samaria have recently convened to establish their own bar association, because the association of the veteran lawyers in the West Bank refuses to accept them.

ITIM reports that the existing association includes lawyers and judges from the region who, since the 6-day war, have refused to appear in local courts. They are on a regular Jordanian payroll, and their bar association is affiliated with the Jordanian Bar Association.

The 77 lawyers who initiated the establishment of the new bar association, on the other hand, do appear in local courts — which is why they are denied admission to the existing association, and why they want to establish their own now. They intend to be affiliated with the Jordanian Bar Association, too, but if their colleagues refuse to admit them, they will operate an independent bar association in Judaea and Samaria.

At a meeting of lawyers in East Jerusalem, the suggestion was raised not to request admission to the Jordanian Bar Association, but that proposal was dropped. By a majority vote it was decided to try to be admitted to the Jordanian Bar Association. This request will probably be turned down, in which case the new bar association will operate independently.

West Bank Arabs Barred From Galilee Symposium

TA231043 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 23 Oct 84 p 4

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Excerpt] The Civilian Administration has banned former members of the National Guidance Committee from attending a symposium in the village of I'billin in the Galilee. Among those banned is Akram Haniyah, the chairman of the journalists' association in the West Bank. Haniyah told our correspondent that several days before the symposium, he was notified by the authorities that he would not be allowed to go to I'billin.

Our correspondent has learned that the Civilian Administration is going to remove some 1,000 titles from the list of books whose distribution is banned in the territories. Civilian Administration officers are currently reviewing the list and it seems that only 300 books will remain banned. Nonetheless, several titles have recently been added to the censored list, including books on Khomeyni.

A confinement order was issued against the mufti of Tulkarm, (Hamid Bitawi), apparently on the suspicion that he has been engaging in extremist religious activities.

Gaza Military Court Sentences 1 Arab, Tries Others

Muslim Underground Member Jailed

TA221726 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 22 Oct 84

[Text] The Gaza military court handed down a 5 and 1/2-year prison term to (Nayif Ghilawi), one of the defendants in the trial of the Muslim underground members. He was convicted on the basis of his admission of having supplied the organization with arms stolen from the IDF. The charge sheet says that the underground was organized in the Jabalyah refugee camp and in the city of Gaza at the beginning of last year. Its members purchased a variety of arms with funds they received primarily from a Jordanian member of parliament, and from membership dues for Muslim organizations in the Gaza District.

Fundamentalists' Trial Begins

TA221853 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 22 Oct 84

[Text] An alleged Islamic fundamentalist terror group went on trial this morning in Gaza military court. The five members of the group, commanded by a paralyzed imam, (Ahmad Isma'il Yasin), admitted to illegal possession of weapons. They had amassed several dozen automatic weapons, a bazooka rocket launcher, and a grenade; however, they pleaded not guilty to charges of conspiracy to overthrow the Israeli Government and replace it with an Islamic regime. A sixth defendant, (Nayif Ghilawi), pleaded guilty to charges of stealing weapons from the IDF and supplying them to the group. He was sentenced to 5 and 1/2 years in jail.

Arab Appointed to West Bank Judicial Committee

TA221546 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 22 Oct 84

[Text] The president of the Judaea and Samaria appeals court, (Gharb al-Hajj Mahmud), has been appointed a member of the committee that recommends appointments for judges and prosecutors in the Judaea and Samaria district judicial system. This is the first time in 17 years that an Arab has been appointed a member of that committee. The committee is headed by the director of administration and services in the Civilian Administration, and its other members are the legal counsellor and the staff officer for judiciary affairs. The appointment was made as part of the efforts to strengthen and improve the Judaea and Samaria legal system. An Arab was appointed supervisor of the courts system about a month ago.

Al-Duhayshah Resident Murders 2 Israelis

TA230530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] A resident of the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp has killed an Israeli young man and woman near the (Kremizan) Monastery near Bayt Jala. The commander of the Judaean police area says the action could have been taken against the background of terrorist activity. The suspect took the police to the spot where he said he killed the two Israelis. It emerges that he encountered the two near the monastery and threatened them with a rifle. He forced the girl to tie up her friend and then tied her up, before shooting them both at short range.

Nationalist Motive Cited

TA231155 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpt] The motive for the murder of the student couple near the (Kremizan) Monastery was nationalistic. This emerges from the preliminary investigation of the affair. The security forces are still examining the possibility that the suspect cooperated with others. The investigative staff of the Judaean police district searched the murder site in order to collect additional evidence.

Tents in 'Election Settlements' Abandoned

TA231038 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 23 Oct 84 p 3

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that many of the settlers

in the "election settlements" initiated by Yuval Ne'eman and Uri Bar-On have recently abandoned their tents, particularly following the fierce rain storms in the last few days. Many of the settlers did not spend the Sukkot holiday in the settlements, but rather in their homes in the city.

The Jewish Agency Settlement Department had expected the settlers to pressure it to begin erecting solid structures before the onset of winter. When this pressure was not forthcoming, it was discovered that the settlers had abandoned their tents.

Security Forces Detain 'Senior Terrorist' in Hebron

TA240707 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0655 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Hebron, 24 Oct (ITIM) — Security forces have detained ('Ali Khalil Riba'i) in Hebron. For years this man was responsible for Fatah operations in Hebron and its environs.

ITIM notes that he has been on the wanted list for more than 13 years, but had always found a way to escape. Approximately 2 weeks ago, the security forces managed to track him down.

(Khalil) was responsible for the recruitment and arming of terrorists from the Hebron hills area, and was also responsible for the planning and implementation of terrorist acts. He personally took part in attacks as well.

The security forces discovered a large cache of arms and detained additional persons suspected of belonging to Fatah — all as a result of the detention of the senior terrorist.

Chief of Northern Command Favors Pullback

TA240626 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Ori Or, the commander of the Northern Command, has said that clearly the IDF should not remain deployed along its present lines in Lebanon for a prolonged period. Meanwhile, however, the efforts to obtain a political arrangement — which stand a good chance — should be exhausted. Speaking to soldiers in Lebanon, Major General Or noted that the solution could be through UNIFIL, the Lebanese Army, or other forces. However, if there is no political solution, we will always be able to reach a military solution. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that Maj Gen Or refused to specify how long it will take before it is possible to remove the IDF from Lebanon in accordance with an arrangement. He noted that the possibility of the Lebanese Army entering Sidon, as part of any kind of arrangement, is immaterial, and the most important thing is that there will not be a terrorist organization there.

Shem-Tov, Sarid Urge No Delay in IDF Withdrawal

TA231437 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee members Victor Shem-Tov, MAPAM, and Yosi Sarid, Citizens' Rights Movement, have called upon the prime minister and defense minister not to become mired in a position over whether negotiations concerning security arrangements in southern Lebanon will be held under the auspices of UNIFIL or under the auspices of the Armistice Commission. In their opinion, the framework of the talks, their status, and their venue have no practical significance and intransigence on this matter can only delay the IDF's withdrawal.

IDF Troops Cross Al-Awwali River 23 Oct

TA231512 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] An IDF force today crossed the Al-Awwali River and patrolled the Druze villages in the Al-Kharrub region north of Batir al-Shuf.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports from Lebanon that the force returned safely to the IDF-controlled zone. The force consisted of a number of armored personnel carriers, tanks and rescue units. The soldiers went part of the way on foot, examining dangerous sections. The commanders stopped in the villages, talked with the notables there and warned them against enabling the terrorists to act from their area.

Senior officers told our military correspondent that the Shi'ite terrorist activity has recently increased. It seems that in several places north of the Al-Awwali River, the Druze allow the terrorists to penetrate southward contrary to the agreements previously reached with them.

IRC Visits Prisoner Camps in South Lebanon

TA202051 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2035 GMT 20 Oct 84

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 20 Oct (ITIM) — This week Israel enabled International Red Cross [IRC] representatives to visit two more prisoner camps in southern Lebanon, one in the area of Barr Ilyas near Sidon, and the other near Al-Nabatiyah.

The IRC announced that its people were allowed to visit the camps following a long meeting in which the details of the visit were concluded. It was agreed, among other things, that the IRC would visit all "those jailed for over 30 days, without the presence of foreigners."

At the end of the week, the IRC representatives received a detailed list of all the detainees, their home address, and the date of their capture.

ITIM correspondent Shlomo Hadad notes that since the prisoner exchange agreement came into effect over a year ago, the IDF forces have detained hundreds of terrorists. Most of them are held in the Ansar prisoner camp but many of them are detained in other jails in the Sidon and Al-Nabatiyah areas.

Most of the terrorists were detained in the course of attempted acts, with a few of them once before having been detained in the Ansar camp and released in the wake of the prisoner exchange agreement.

Christian Leader Wants More Shi'ites in Lahd Army

TA231518 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1350 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The head of the Lebanese Christian representation in Jerusalem, Pierre Yazbik, has called for an increase in the incorporation of Shi'ites in the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] in preparation for the ASL becoming a regional unit of the Lebanese Army. It will be in charge of guarding the south, but will be subordinate to the council of the Lebanese Army.

Yazbik said the incorporation of Shi'ites into the ASL would give that body broad support in the south.

IDF Unit Promises To Aid S. Lebanese Schools

TA230653 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Lebanese Government funds are not reaching the southern part of the country. Civil servants are not receiving salaries and dozens of state organizations are actually paralyzed. Yesterday, 22 school principals convened in the village of Bint Jubayl and said their schools cannot function due to what they termed deliberate disruptions by the Education Ministry in Beirut.

The IDF liaison unit in Lebanon promised to help in operating the schools, but said that it cannot supply funds from its own pocket to replace Lebanese Government budget allocations.

Reservist Sentenced For Refusal To Serve

TA232024 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] A 46-year-old reservist, Sergeant Max Bloch from Tel Aviv, has been sentenced to 28 days in jail for having repeatedly refused to serve in Lebanon. This sentence was passed less than 2 months after he was jailed for a similar refusal.

Treasury Accountant General Delays U.S. Visit

TA240813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] The visit of the Treasury accountant general to the United States has been postponed by at least 1 week. In his Washington talks he was to discuss matters pertaining to the aid extended by the United States.

Evidently the trip was postponed because Israel has decided not to defer the repayment of its debts to the United States for the moment, and because the transfer of U.S. aid to Israel for the next fiscal year has already been arranged. The aid is expected to be transferred in one lump sum within a few days.

Earlier, the finance minister and the director general of the Finance Ministry also postponed their trips, which is why the deliberations of the Israel-U.S. Joint Economic Development Group on Israel's economic plan have been postponed.

Arabic Broadcast on Syria, Lebanese Security

JN231632 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, good evening. Throughout the stages [of Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon], the well-being of Galilee or our boys should not be sacrificed on the altar of Syrian or Lebanese prestige. This is what the head of the national unity government affirmed in his speech to the Knesset yesterday. This expression draws a parallel between two safeties: the safety of Galilee, and the safety of the IDF soldiers. It is on these two parallel safeties that Israel bases its policy, and therefore its readiness to hold contacts with Syria, through the United States, in order to prevent the infiltration of terrorists from areas under Syrian control and to prevent Syrian forces from expanding southward and westward after the IDF withdrawal and the redeployment of the UNIFIL forces in the South, including the Al-Biqa' area.

Needless to say, Israel does not at all intend to remain on Lebanese territory. If Israel wants to achieve political arrangements with Syria and military arrangements with Lebanon without prejudicing Damascus or Beirut in any way, as the prime minister said, this does not mean that it is seeking any favors from Syria or Lebanon. The current situation, which Israel is trying to end, does not entail any interest for Lebanon or Syria. However, sound logic makes it incumbent on both of them also to end this situation and to remove the obstacles hampering the achievement of this objective.

The Syrian media are trying to be logical in addressing Lebanon, despite their rhetoric and praise for their rulers. For example, yesterday *TISHRIN* called on the Lebanese Government to close what it termed the security and political files so that it can devote itself to the most important issue — the question of the south. The Syrian paper said that the Lebanese Government can achieve this objective if it wants to, by urging all sides to place Lebanon's interests above all other considerations. However, the Syrian media's talk does not mean that Syria is not fully aware of the fact that the Beirut government is not free to act independently, due both to the internal conflicts from which Damascus cannot absolve itself and to the direct Syrian interference in Lebanon on the pretext of safeguarding its interests in that country.

Therefore, if the Syrian regime is indeed concerned about reaching a settlement, it must give the Lebanese the opportunity to work for Lebanon's national interests. Statements such as the one Rashid Karami, who is considered Syria's high commissioner in Beirut, made yesterday about holding talks with Israel in separate rooms under the supervision of UN officers and through the Mixed Armistice Commission do not serve any purpose — especially when Karami and the Syrians know that such methods are useless, and even harmful. The military arrangements that Israel demanded are based on a previous commitment made by Lebanon — namely, that in the area adjacent to Israel, we should fulfill the desire for peace that the inhabitants of southern Lebanon have and we should prevent the stationing of any forces that seek to undermine Israel.

It is obvious that the ball is now in the Syrian-Lebanese court. After Israel has had its say, it behooves the officials in Damascus and Beirut to decide where their interests lie and how they can achieve these interests. Israel will adhere to its demands. It can wait until circumstances are opportune and the inevitable security arrangements are made. It would be wrong to assume that Israel can be compelled to make hasty decisions, to withdraw without guaranteeing the safety and security of its citizens and without making certain that the situation in southern Lebanon would not return to the state that necessitated the Peace for Galilee operation.

Alignment MK Notes Change in French Attitude
TA202039 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Oct 84

[Text] The head of the Alignment's Knesset faction, Knesset Member [MK] Rafi Edri, conferred with French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius in Paris yesterday. MK Edri is visiting France on behalf of the Labor Party and has held talks with the French Socialist Party leaders and with the head of the Socialist Party's National Assembly faction. Our correspondent has learned that it is MK Edri's impression from his talks that a real change in the attitude of the French ruling Socialist Party toward Israel has come with the establishment of the national unity government. This change may soon be reflected in practical relations between the two countries.

Lumber Deal To Be Signed With Liberia
TA240830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] A large commercial deal will be signed in Jerusalem today between an Israeli company and the Liberian Government. It deals with a concession to cut and market lumber over an area of approximately 6 million dunams. The concession was held by a U.S. company until approximately 4 years ago. The Liberian justice minister and deputy finance minister came to Israel for the occasion of the signing ceremony. Our correspondent Gid'on Remez reports it is believed that production will soon reach $5 million per month. Idle heavy equipment will be transferred from Israel to Liberia, and at least 10 Israeli families will be employed there.

Chinese Among Textile Workers Delegates
TA240929 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Oct 84 p 3

[Roy Isacowitz report]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv — Trade unionists from China, Bangladesh, Malaysia and Indonesia — none of which maintains diplomatic relations with Israel — are among the approximately 300 delegates to the fourth world congress of the International Textile, Garment and Leather Workers' Federation that opened at the Dan Hotel here yesterday.

The congress is the first such gathering to be held in Israel. The delegates represent some 5.5 million workers around the world.

Community Group Hosts Bulgarian Delegation
TA221240 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1135 GMT 22 Oct 84

["Announcement by the HADASH Spokesman" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 22 Oct (ITIM) — On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Bulgaria from fascism, a public committee composed mainly of people of Bulgarian origin has been established in Israel.

As may be recalled, the Bulgarian people opposed the Nazi plan to put Jews in concentration camps, and so all Bulgarian Jews were spared from fascism. Most of these Jews now live in Israel.

The public committee invited a delegation of public figures and artists to Israel. The delegation includes a member of the Bulgarian State Council, Angel Stoichkov [name and title as received]; a member of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, Dimitur Sidrov [name and title as received]; artists of the State Musical Theater and the State Satirical Theater in Sofia; folklore singers; and musicians.

The delegation of artists will hold concerts in towns and kibbutzim throughout Israel and will stay here for 10 days. Its main performance will be on Tuesday, 23 October, at 2000 at the Ohen Shem Auditorium.

ALGERIA

APS reports on FLN Tour of Cuba, Latin America

LD231856 Algiers APS in English 1006 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Algiers, 23/10/84 (APS) — At the issue [as received] of the visit a FLN delegation paid to Cuba lately a protocol agreement of cooperation was signed between the Cuban Communist Party and the FLN. A press communique was also released, after the talks held between the two delegations.

The FLN delegation led by Lazhari Cheriet, member of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, carries on its tour to Latin American states within the framework of reinforcing cooperation and friendship relations among progressist countries in the Third World.

LIBYA

Al-Jumayyil Speech at Dinner Given by Jallud

LD231544 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud last night held a dinner banquet in honor of the president of Lebanon, Amin al-Jumayyil, and delivered a speech welcoming the president and his accompanying delegation.

The president of Lebanon, Amin al-Jumayyil, also delivered a speech at the dinner banquet. He said my visit to sister Libya is a natural one. We are here with brothers — suffering together those tragedies and meeting together those challenges which face us all. Our meetings have been very fruitful. They have been an opportunity to thrash out all subjects which confront us.

He said that Lebanon today is paying a very high price for the plots hatched against its Arabism, a matter which resulted in further destruction, devastation, and killing and for which the Lebanese Arabs paid a very dear price.

He added that now, through cooperation with our Arab brethren, we seek a halt to the circle of violence and destruction, and seek the unity of Lebanon. He stressed that the Arab will and the determination of the Lebanese Arab people are strong and enable the Lebanese Arab people to confront all Zionist and imperialist plots.

He stressed that his visit to Jamahiriyah and his meeting with the brother leader of the Revolution confirm the resistance to Zionist and imperialist plots, and confirm the coincidence in views regarding the unification of the Arab nation at this stage in particular.

The dinner banquet held in honor of the president of Lebanon and his accompanying delegation was attended by the secretaries of the General Peoples' Committee and heads of the diplomatic missions accredited to Jamahiriyah.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Message From Iranian President

LD232339 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Yesterday evening the brother leader of the revolution received the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah Socialist Republic who conveyed to the brother leader a message from the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Iraqi Kurdish Leader

LD241041 Tripoli JANA in English 0954 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 29, Oct 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution received Mas'ud al-Barzani, leader of the Kurdish Democratic Party in which he highlighted the operations of genocide the Kurds are being subjected to asking him to intervene with the concerned states to put an end to this act of aggression against the Kurdish Muslim people by Muslim brothers.

Replying to this message the leader of the revolution recalled the principled and firm stand which he expressed several times affirming the right of the Kurdish nation to freedom, independence, unity and to live in peace with the sisterly Arab and Turkish nations.

In his reply to the message of Mas'ud Al-Barzani, the leader of the revolution condemned the acts of genocide against the Kurds and the alliances set up against them reasserting that Libya would no effort [as received] in working to see that the concerned states stop their hostilities against unarmed Kurds in Northern Iraq. For they did not commit any crime and all they wanted is their natural rights as a strong Muslim grouping with a distinct cultural identity and an historical role in the face of the attempts aimed at the region against the invading crusaders and others.

Habre Reportedly Receives 'North African' Aid

LD241026 Tripoli JANA in English 0934 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Ndjamena, Muharam 29, Oct 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — News from Ndjamena revealed that renegade Habre has recently received large assistance from a country in North Africa. Sixty fuel tankers have already arrived at Ndjamena, news added.

Habre Forces Defect From 'Ruling Clique'

LD241029 Tripoli JANA in English 0936 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Bardai, Muharram 29, Oct 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — A large number of soldiers of renegade Habre have recently joined the forces of the national government with their equipment and weapons. Recently, more than 150 soldiers have defected from the clique of oppression ruling in Ndjamena, news said.

SUDAN

Numayri Returns From Cairo 23 Oct

JN231848 Khartoum SUNA in English 1735 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Oct (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri returned here at 5 o'clock (local time) from Cairo where he took part in a Nile Valley Parliament session and had a series of meetings with his Egyptian counterpart Husni Mubarak, He also underwent a successful surgical operation to remove a bony protuberant from his right foot.

At his arrival at Khartoum airport he was received by First Vice President 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib and presidential assistant for presidency affairs Dr. Baha' al-Din Muhammad idris.

It is worth mentioning that President Numayri had left for Cairo last Muharram 19 [14 October].

Numayri Raps Libyan Behavior Toward Chad

JN231905 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Oct (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has warned the Libyan regime and all those who play with fire of the dangers of their conspiracy against the Chadian people. The president asserted that their plot will not succeed, regardless of their plans and their arms with which they are threatening the Chadian and Sudanese people.

In a statement he made after his return to Khartoum from Cairo this evening, President Numayri reiterated that Sudan has always called for the unity of people and supports the Chadian people in their efforts to peacefully end the war in their country.

President Numayri said that the representatives of the Chadian people decided to go to Brazzaville, because they want to keep Libya away and want to adopt their own decisions. However, the Libyan regime hurriedly dispatched a delegation there [Brazzaville].

Numayri added: I cannot understand why Libya went there. This behavior is an example of the Libyan regime's impudence and their interference in the affairs of other countries.

The president added that the Libyan behavior makes us believe that the so-called [Chadian] opposition are only Libyan regime agents who want to play with and forfeit the future of Chad. Therefore, we will be very cautious.

ETHIOPIA

ADDIS ZEMEN Comments on Correct Use of Aid

EA232229 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0915 GMT 23 Oct 84

[From the press review]

[Text] *ADDIS ZEMEN*, in its editorial entitled "Support for Our Development Struggle," states that in the past years of victory and struggle, the broad masses, the revolutionary government and the COPWE leadership have laid strong foundations for the construction of a socialist economy and society, after repulsing and destroying internal and foreign class enemies. With the political organization, the leadership of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] has time and again assured that it will strengthen the struggle effectively to this end.

Even though the broad masses are undertaking a struggle for development and construction in various fields, their efforts have been hindered by the adverse weather conditions prevailing in our country. The revolutionary government and the broad masses of Ethiopia have never refrained from helping compatriots affected by natural and man-made calamities in their short- and long-term plans,and in resettling them as part of the construction struggle whenever economic ability has allowed them to do so.

The support received from donor organizations and governments has made a great contribution to this end. The revolutionary government has made the situation clear to the world community, and the number of governments and donor organizations responding to this call is substantial. Even though it is clear that timely aid and support is very necessary to save the lives of our compatriots affected by man-made and natural calamities, in order to control the situation permanently it is important to carry out scientific methods of advancing the agricultural sector of the economy and to educate the farmers. This matter has been given priority and great attention in the 10-year development plan. To implement this plan, the contribution expected from the broad masses in the struggle and from the forces who have stood for its development should continue. Great struggle has been carried out up to now for the implementation of projects which have been planned for our development. Many projects have been accomplished and are operational, and many others are under way.

The support we are receiving is due to our efficiency in correctly utilizing all the aid we receive for its intended purposes. This was confirmed by officials of international organizations who have recently left our country after a 1-week visit. The confirmation of these officials that even though we have natural problems which have an impact on our construction struggles, the activities carried out not only in agriculture and health but in all the other areas in various development sectors is encouraging. This is an example of our correctness in fulfilling our decisive aims. and will further encourage and strengthen our struggle in various fields for advancing our development and in the construction struggle of forming a society where equality, peace, freedom, and mutual prosperity flourishes.

UGANDA

Opposition Candidate Returns, Joins UPC

EA232228 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] A DP [Democratic Party] parliamentary candidate and former London exile Mr (Setriya Mukombe Mpambara) has returned to Uganda and crossed to the Uganda People's Congress [UPC]. Addressing a press conference in Kampala International Conference Center, Mr (Mpambara) said that he was prompted to come back to Uganda after putting absolute trust in President Obote's appeal to exiles to come back home.

The former London exile criticized Ugandans who went to foreign capitals and confused exiles there saying that Uganda was uninhabitable because of the security situation here. Mr (Mpambara) went on to dismiss what is said by those unpatriotic Ugandans as completely unfounded, and called all those in exile to come back home because there is peace and security in Uganda today.

The former London exile also paid tribute to the prime minister, Erifasi Otema Allimadi, who while in London assured him that he would be provided with security personel, which he now feels as unnecessary having seen the peace that now prevails in Uganda. Mr (Mpambara) confessed to the pressmen that since his return he has driven unguarded and freely to many parts of the country to see for himself the security the UPC government has created.

Speaking about the freedom of press in Uganda, Mr (Mpambara) also confessed that he did not know of any other country in the world which enjoyed press freedom like Uganda. He however cautioned the press not to misuse the freedom given to them by the UPC to mudsling Uganda. Speaking about his former party, DP, the 1980 DP parliamentary candidate said he did not want to be associated with a party that was not serious. Speaking about DP's association with Christian Democratic International, the 1980 DP parliamentary candidate said he wanted to be associated with a political party which embraces all religions.

Welcoming Mr (Mpambara) back to UPC, on behalf of the president, the minister of state in the office of the president, Mr Chris Rwakasisi amplified the president's appeal to those in exile to come home and to those in the bush to come out. Speaking about the proposal for the government to meet Ugandans in exile and those in the bush in some foreign capitals, the minister of state categorically said there was no room for such meetings. Those in the bush now, Mr Rwakasisi declared, are on the run. He called upon the handful who are still with Museveni to rebel and leave him.

The press conference was also attended by the acting administrative secretary at the UPC Secretariat, Mr (Otaya Rakidi) and the secretary for information at the UPC Secretariat, professor (Kajienda Tofi).

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

French Soldiers Leaving Chad Arrive in Bouar

AB231825 Paris AFP in French 1650 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Bangui, 23 Oct (AFP) — Several dozen French soldiers arrived in Bouar on Sunday (400 km northwest of Bangui), it was learned from reliable French sources in the CAR capital. The French soldiers got to Bouar by road via the north of Cameroon, the source said. It is recalled that Camp Bouar is to harbor contingents of the French "Manta" operation, whose withdrawal is currently taking place for an unspecified period of time, according to French military sources.

Concern Voiced Over Chadian Refugees, Conference

AB232156 Paris AFP in French 1820 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Bangui, 23 Oct (AFP) — The CAR is directly concerned with the outcome of the Brazzaville conference on the Chadian conflict, in particular because of the situation in southern Chad, which has resulted in the influx of about 15,000 Chadian refugees into the CAR, it is learned from a reliable source in the CAR. It is said in Bangui that this influx of refugees fleeing the battles between southern Maquisards and Ndjamena troops, especially in the middle-Chari region, raises problems on economic and sanitary levels that necessitate "more vigilance."

The CAR will "remain faithful to its traditional hospitality, but a CAR authority explains that "vigilance is necessary because of the fact that we want to prevent our country from serving as a springboard for activities against the legitimate authority in Chad." The CAR authorities privately admit that they are afraid these refugees may become an element of destabilization in the south of the CAR. An official said that the people living on both sides of the border belong to the same tribe, which can bring about solidarity.

According to an official, the stability in the CAR's northern region, "which is unstable and still not completely subdued to the central power," is carefully considered by the authorities in the country. Interior Minister Christian Grelombe frequently visits the region, and the head of state, General Kolingba, is to visit Paoua (north). Reliable sources say that although the main purpose of the head of state's visit to the region is due to the economic problems there, he will certainly discuss refugee problems with the regional authorities as well.

Furthermore, the CAR, which has more than a 1,000 kilometer common border with its northern neighbor [Chad], "is paying great attention" to the current meeting in Brazzaville, even though its does not want to air any view on the outcome of the discussions.

In the CAR authorities' estimation, the fundamental problem is the recognition of Hissein Habre as president of Chad. "This issue is still far from being solved," it is noted in Bangui, where it is also pointed out that the CAR "recognizes and supports" Habre's government, the legitimacy of which cannot be questioned according to the authorities. "We fully support President Hissein Habre," it is asserted in President Andre Kolingba's entourage, and we are on very good terms and in permanent contact with Ndjamena. It is also said in government circles that Chad "should regain its entire territory in order to be able to devote itself to reconciliation and reconstruction."

CHAD

French Troops Reported Withdrawing From Biltine

AB241031 Paris AFP in French 0916 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] Ndjamena, 24 Oct (AFP) — On Wednesday morning, the French paratroopers left Biltine, 850 km northeast of Ndjamena, within the framework of the withdrawal of French and Libyan forces from Chad, it was learned from an informed source in the Chadian capital. For his part, the spokesman of the French contingent confirmed to AFP the "withdrawal early in the morning" of the French units that had been stationed in Biltine. There are still French troops in three towns: Abeche (760 km east of the capital), Ati (450 km east of the capital), and Ndjamena.

Chadian Factions at Brazzaville Talks Listed

AB231009 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 0630 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] [Words indistinct] still in Brazzaville, one wonders about the chances of success of the preparatory meeting of the conference on Chadian reconciliation. Yesterday delegates from all the Chadian political factions took part in the second working session of the preliminary meeting. During this session, the tone of the speeches made by the heads of the delegations of Ndjamena and GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] of Goukouni Oueddei appeared to be irreconcilable. We have here the list of the 12 delegations present at the inter-Chadian conference of Brazzaville:

1. The delegation of President Hissein Habre's government, led by Mr Gouarra Lassou, the minister of foreign affairs, consisting of 27 persons, out of which seven are ministers and secretaries of state;

2. Delegation of GUNT of Goukouni Oueddei, led by Adoum Yacoub Gougou, the secretary of state for foreign affairs, made up of 54 persons;

3. CDR [Revolutionary Democratic Council] of Acheikh Ibn Oumar, who recently detached himself from Mr Goukouni, represented by Mahamat Saleh Ahmat;

4. The People's Revolutionary Movement (founded in December 83) represented by Yoadim Nadji Pascal;

5. The Rally of Patriotic Forces created in Ouagadougou last August and made up of GUNT dissidents, represented by Daoud Ngangano Madei;

6. CDR-Committee of Action and Coordination, consisting of Chadian exiles resident in Paris and represented by Ouchar Tourgoudi;

7. The Permanent Committee, bringing together exiles resident in Congo, led by Ngargayal Mbailemdana;

8. The Group of Independent Democrats of Michel Ngangbot;

9. The Chadian Action for Unity and Socialism, led by Moungal Abdelkerim Fidele;

10. The Democratic Union for Peace, led by Djibrine Hisseine Grenky;

11.The Union of Chadian People for National Reconciliation, led by Abakal Oumar Mahamat; and,

12.The Group of Chadian Patriots and Democrats.

Deliberations are expected to continue today in the Congolese capital.

Bardai Rejects Separate Participation of Groups

AB232130 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Even though one might express satisfaction over the form and content of the opening speech delivered by Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso at the preliminary meeting of the peace conference on Chad, one might also express surprise that no explicit reference was made to the OAU despite all the efforts it has made toward the settlement of the Chadian question.

Under such conditions, could the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] delegates take part in a meeting in the absence of OAU representatives and following the assurances given in this connection? The answer is no, of course. The GUNT could not allow the continental organization to be left outside this meeting on national reconciliation, on which the OAU has its say. It must be recalled that the GUNT has always insisted that the negotiations toward peace in Chad be placed under the aegis of the OAU. Failure to invite the OAU to supervise the deliberations, which are important for our continent, is tantamount to playing into the hands of the enemies of Africa.

In regard to the second demand that the GUNT delegation made in the Congolese capital, there was indeed a political (?mistake) — and the word is not too strong — in giving so much consideration to personalities linked to the GUNT and in presenting them as separate parties from the GUNT. The GUNT contends that there are only two sides and the other political leanings must side with one group or the other.

This is obviously logical and the merit of this view is that it contributes to clarifying the situation and putting an end to the political confusion prevailing at the meeting and which is likely to jeopardize the smooth deliberations. While we are happy that the host country has given firm assurances on the first point, we are still awaiting clarifications on the second point conducive to creating a propitious atmosphere for the negotiations.

Bardai Condemns Ndjamena Anti-Libyan Campaign

AB232240 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpts] While efforts are in progress in Brazzaville aimed at finding a solution to the Chadian tragedy, the Ndjamena group, inspired by its non-African masters, has just embarked on a diversionary campaign designed to hamper the deliberations of the preliminary meeting by raising and exaggerating the issue of the presence of a Libyan delegation in Brazzaville.

In being so overly critical, thus harming national reconciliation talks, the Ndjamena puppet clique demonstrates unprecedented meanness and unqualified hatred toward one African state. In this connection, can the Ndjamena group give us evidence that there are no Frenchmen in Brazzaville. If, as the Ndjamnea group believes, Libya wanted to play a disturbing role, what use would it be to send a mission to Brazzaville? Actually, the anti-Libyan campaign outside the preliminary meeting in Brazzaville is an indirect accusation leveled against the People's Republic of Congo. The strange thing in this is that everyone including the French press acknowledges that Congolese relations with France and Libya are well-balanced. So what right has one to prevent Libyans from going to a brotherly country?

In fact, Ndjamena's strong reluctance to see the OAU supervise national reconciliation shows the real intentions of that horde of power-hungry men in the pay of international imperialism. Actually, the behavior of the Ndjamena group is the tangible result of a recent visit made to Ndjamena by an American envoy. According to our permanent correspondent, Ronald Reagan's special envoy advised the pro-American agent to play for time until after the U.S. presidential elections. This instruction from the United States could wreck the hope for peace aroused by the current Brazzaville meeting.

CONGO

Further Reportage on Chadian Reconciliation Talks

Group Proposes 'State Reorganization'

AB231411 Paris AFP in French 1232 GMT 23 Oct 84

[By AFP special correspondent Jean-Eudes Barbier]

[Text] Brazzaville, 23 Oct (AFP) — One of the Chadian delegations present in Brazzaville, the Group of Chadian Patriots and Democrats (GPDT), on Monday proposed to the meeting preparing the conference on reconciliation in Chad a first program of "provisional reorganization of the structure" of the state.

The GPDT leader, Jean Alingue who was a former Chadian ambassador to Paris, first of all called for the constitution of a "decentralized unitary state" and the appointment by the Brazzaville conference of a Chadian president who will also be the head of the government. This president, the duration of whose mandate remains to be determined, would have as his main mission the organization of "democratic elections" in which he cannot, however, be a candidate.

As a condition for the setting up of this first structure of operation of the Chadian state, Mr Alingue demanded the establishment of a cease-fire all over the territory, a general amnesty, and the liberation of all political and war prisoners as well as of the "hostages." In the military field, the former Chadian diplomat suggested the "confinement of all the fighting forces," the "demilitarization of the various war theaters and the disarmament of the uncontroled elements."

Mr Alingue's program, which was presented to the press on Tuesday morning, also provides for the dispatch of a "multinational peacekeeping force" to Chad. "For reasons of expediency and political objectivity," France and Libya could be asked to take part in this force, the document specifies and adds that many states, which are Chad's neighbors, could join this force. The GPDT also suggested the creation of a "committee of national experts" to define "the needs on which a plan for the constitution of a Chadian national army will be based." [sentence as received]

This movement, which has its headquarters in Paris and which comprises a number of eminent Chadian personalities, called for the establishment in Ndjamena of an "executive OAU commission" that will ensure the "good execution of the mandate entrusted to the transitional organs by the Brazzaville conference." The GPDT finally called for the creation of a "council of state" that would be a consultative body whose main function would be to find a permanent solution to the Chadian conflict.

The GPDT's program did not arouse any reaction from the other Chadian delegations on Monday evening. It has the merit of being considered by many delegates as "a first basis of discussion of the problems that have divided Chad for many years. However, many observers generally believe that the Ndjamena government would not willingly support its application because it would result in bringing Hissein Habre's power into question.

Talks Pose 'Great Difficulties'

AB231535 Paris AFP in French 1157 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 23 Oct (AFP) — Serious discussions were expected to begin at the Chadian meeting in Brazzaville on Tuesday, specifically with the Ndjamena delegation stating "very clearly" its stand on its proposals and the framework within which it wants the meeting held, according to indications from one of its members.

On Monday, all the Chadian factions met behind closed doors in at atmosphere described generally as good. But the positions of the big factions still seemed firm.

Congolese Information Minister Christian-Gilbert Bembe said the fact that the Chadian factions are meeting is already a step forward. In an interview with the foreign press, he did not hide the fact that there were still "great" difficulties, but he added that there is "a general goodwill" from all sides. Diplomatic sources said the fact that the conference actually began is already a "certain diplomatic success" for Congo, which is organizing the conference.

The Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], supported by Libya, apologized on two occasions for causing the incident at the first day's session. According to several participants, the GUNT categorically rejected Ndjamena's controversial statement "in all its dimensions" and asserted that it is the only legitimate government of the country. Although it strongly denounced Ndjamena's "tyranny," it notably never attacked President Hissein Habre, it was learned from the same sources. GUNT's representative, Mr Adoum Yacoub Kougou, reaffirmed that there are only "two blocks," a statement directed at the various factions present at the meeting that do not identify themselves with the GUNT or with Ndjamena, but he did not make this a precondition. He finally admitted that each side should make "concessions to the other."

Mr Goura Lassou, the foreign affairs minister and representative of Mr Habre, in a short preliminary statement, stressed his desire "for dialogue with everybody in order to reach a political platform." Other factions made statements, including the Chadian Patriots and Democrats group, which was the first to propose a program recommending the appointment of an interim president charged with organizing elections for which he cannot stand as a candidate.

On Tuesday morning, a delegate from Ndjamena stated that his mission was "to get to the root of the problem" and reply to the various intervening parties. Questioned on the declarations contesting the legitimacy of his government, he told AFP: "We are not here to search for legitimacy nor are we here to return to the anarchy of the past years. There is an existing state of affairs in Chad and we will begin discussions from there."

All delegates consulted expressed satisfaction with the chairmanship of the session, which is entrusted to Congolese Minister of Foreign Affairs Antoine Nginga Oba and Political Bureau Secretary in Charge of External Relations Pierre Nze.

On Tuesday, the number of sessions was increased from four to six per day. The Congolese are concerned with preserving the tranquillity of the conference, the minister of information disclosed. The Libyan and Algerian delegations, as well as the French diplomats present in Brazzaville, have been told not to set foot at the Mbamou Palace, where the delegations are lodged.

"This is too good to be true," a partly delighted, partly sceptical representative of one of the smaller factions said about the Monday session. "The Franco-Libyan agreement is pushing each and every one to relax his stand," the delegate said, adding, however: "No one wants to be held responsible for the failure of this conference and this is what prompted the GUNT to take back its words after its outburst on Sunday."

'Limits' Set on Compromise

AB231735 Paris AFP in French 1625 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Brazzaville, 23 Oct (AFP) — On Tuesday the Ndjamena delegation set strict limits on the extent to which it is prepared to compromise at the current preparatory meeting being held prior to the Chadian reconciliation conference, reasserting that it was the sole representative of the legitimate

government and that it would not accept a questioning of the unitary structure of the state and a reorganization of the Army.

One of President Hissein Habre's government's conditions for the meeting, his minister of foreign affairs, Gouara Lassou, said in a statement published on Tuesday, is that it should be a meeting "between the government of the Republic of Chad and its various opposition groups" and that it should "be held without any observers except Congo."

It will be recalled that Goukouni Oueddei's Transitional National Union government had wanted the OAU to be represented at the meeting. Mr Lassou also asserted that "the structure and mission" of the Chadian National Armed Forces "have been reorganized" and that "they, in fact, represent the entire nation," in replying to several participants in the debate who, like Jean Alingue, former ambassador to Paris and leader of the Group of Chadian Patriots and Democrats, had suggested a reorganization of the Army. "Some people who have been longing for the Balkanization of Chad raise the bleak concepts of international war (...) in Chad in order to satisfy their evil desire," the Chadian minister said, adding: "Chad is and will remain indivisible."

The minister was replying to some dignitaries like [words indistinct] Abdelkader Kamougue [words indistinct] federal, in order to settle the conflict existing between the people of the north and those of the south. The Ndjamena representative recalled that his delegation came there in order to "hold discussions, without any precondition of protocol or any other, with all Chadians who belong to the opposition so as to reach a political platform."

Mr Goura Lassou denounced the attitude of the GUNT, which he described as the "delegation from Tripoli," accusing it of "having taken to maneuvers of diversion and confusion," in order to "torpedo" the participation of other opposition groups that are anxious to find, along with the government, the ways and means of restoring peace to Chad."

RWANDA

President Receives World Bank Vice President

EA232206 Kigali Domestic Service in French
1115 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Head of State General Juvenal Habyarimana received Edward Jaycox, vice president of the World Bank, who has been visiting our country since last Friday, in his office this morning. Interviewed by the Rwandan news agency after the audience, Mr Jaycox said he discussed with the president of the republic his visit to our country and cooperation between Rwanda and the World Bank.

BURKINA

Blaise Compaore, Delegation Visit DPRK

For North Korean reportage on the visit by Minister of State Blaise Compaore and a National Revolutionary Council delegation to the DPRK, including their meeting with Kim Il-song and other officials, see the North Korea section of the 24 October Asia & Pacific *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

GHANA

PNDC Delegation Leaves on Visit to DPRK, PRC

AB232018 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] A four-man government delegation led by the special adviser to the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Captain Kojo Tsikata, left Accra this morning for the DPRK and the PRC. The delegation includes the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, a member of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, and an official at the PNDC headquarters.

Speaking to newsmen at the airport before departure, Captain Tsikata described the visit as a goodwill one which is at the invitation of the governments of the two countries. He said it would help improve the existing cordial relations between Ghana, the DPRK, and the PRC. Capt Tsikata said the secretary for foreign affairs would later join another government delegation to the forthcoming OAU summit in Addis Ababa.

GUINEA

Joint Commission With USSR on Fishing Opens

AB231038 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 22 Oct 84

[Text] The eighth session of the Soviet-Guinean Joint Commission on Fishing opened today at the Palace of Nations under the chairmanship of Captain Fode Momo Camara, minister of international cooperation. Section heads of the Departments of Fisheries, Internal Trade, and State Control also attended this working session. Here are more details from our reporter (Ibrahim Fofali):

The eighth session of the Soviet-Guinean Joint Commission on Fishing had six items on its agenda, among which were: discussions on the recommendations by the seventh session; the critical analysis and the new orientation given to Soviet-Guinean cooperation in fishing; and research and the training of cadres.

In his opening address, Minister for International Cooperation Captain Fode Momo Camara said that fishing is given a prominent place among the priority programs of the Military Committee for National Redress. Therefore we want it to be profitable and complementary to our agro-pastoral resources. He went on to say that the Guinean Government wants to benefit from Soviet experience for the development of our water resources. The minister recalled that our fishing potential is between 300,000 to 400,000 tons yearly, while our domestic needs stand at 75,000 tons yearly. He added that 12 fishing companies currently operate in the country and that 70 ships belonging to these companies are fishing in our territorial waters.

For his part, (?Grigoryev), leader of the Soviet delegation and current chairman of the commission, recalled the history of the fishing and training agreements and stated that this cooperation is very fruitful for both sides. He also presented to the audience details on various types of fishing vessels and reaffirmed the full preparedness of the Soviet Union to assist us. The debate that followed the opening ceremony was chaired by Captain Alpha Omar Diallo, minister of fishing and animal husbandry. It will be noted that the debate over the seven [as heard] items on the agenda was characterized by a spirit of frankness and objective criticism. Other issues such as the building of a fishing port in Conakry, the rehabilitation of cold storage at the port, and the supply of offloading equipment, as well as the quality of fish sold to the public, were discussed.

IVORY COAST

Minister of State Receives Message From Conte

AB231141 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 23 Oct 84 p 3

[Excerpt] Major Sidi Mohammed, Guinean minister for higher education and scientific research, was received in audience yesterday morning by Minister of State Auguste Denise, acting for the president of the republic. He was bearer of a message from Guinean head of state Colonel Lansana Conte to President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

MALI

Briefs

Ambassadors Present Credentials— Two ambassadors successively presented their letters of credence to the head of state this morning at the presidential palace. The first diplomat was the Kuwaiti ambassador with residence in Nouakchott, His Excellency Badr Ahmad al-Haddad and the second was the Yugoslav ambassador to Mali, His Excellency Dusan Grubor. Both diplomats stressed the need to strengthen the bonds of cooperation between their countries and Mali. [Summary] [*Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 19 Oct 84 AB*]

NIGERIA

Buhari Calls for Peace Along Ondo-Oyo Border

AB231423 Lagos NAN in English 1202 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Ibadan, Oct 23 (NAN) — The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, yesterday in Ibadan appealed to communities along the boundary between Ondo and Oyo States to stop engaging in conflicts.

Addressing a large crowd of school children, civil servants, traders, market women and traditional rulers at a civic reception in his honour at the Liberty Stadium, Maj Gen Buhari said that the administration was quite aware of the rumblings of either side of the boundary. He urged the communities affected to strive to live in peace and harmony as government seeks solution to the problem in a peaceful atmosphere.

The head of state recalled the seed of discord, the avalanche of blood and tears and the climate of hate and insecurity unleashed by politicians and pledged that the military administration would sail the country back to progress and glory. The struggle for our economic survival is just starting, the road is long and thorny, but with the positive acceptance of the challenge which we have so far seen, it will only be a matter of time when we shall once again smile he said.

Maj Gen Buhari also commended the state government on its food production programme, but noted that there was still room for greater effectiveness, particularly in the area of direct government participation in agriculture.

The military governor, Lt Col Oladayo Popoola, enumerated some of the problems and successes of the state in what he tagged the strivings of today and the hopes of tomorrow. These were in the areas of education, agriculture, industrialization, health, water supply, roads and telecommunciation as well as rural electrification and said that sprited attention was being paid to the agricultural sector.

Earlier, the head of state was treated to various traditional dances and rendition of the national anthem in Yoruba by a selection of some school children.

FMG To Close All 'Mushroom' Radio Stations

AB231630 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] All mushroom [as heard] radio stations established in the 19 states of the country are to be closed down. The shortwave radio stations in Lagos, Ibadan, Kaduna, Enugu, and Abuja are to be reequipped to offer better services to the nation and save cost.

The decision of the Federal Military Government [FMG] on the issue was announced in Lagos today by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon. He was speaking at the inauguration of the committee on the rationalization of radio and television services. The committee is headed by the managing director of Cadbury, Nigeria Limited, Dr Christopher Kolade. The chief of staff noted that at present there are 19 radio stations, 4 Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria [FRCN] zonal stations, and 19 FRCN outlets from the states, including Abuja. All together the country has a staggering figure of 48 domestic radio services providing local broadcasts daily.

On television services, Brigadier Idiagbon stated that at present Nigeria has 32 federal and state television stations with the Federal Government owning 22 of them. He remarked that in the face of the current economic doldrums, some of the stations were already finding it extremely difficult to survive due to lack of funds to maintain machines and equipment.

The chief of staff affirmed that the Federal Government owed it a duty to provide virile, functional, and effective broadcasting system in the country. That was why it could not sit idly by while such an important sector was decaying. Brigadier Idiagbon said that consequently the committee was set up to rationalize the television services provided by Nigeria Television Authority [NTA], having regard to the extent and coverage of the state television stations. The exercise, he explained, was aimed at streamlining television broadcasting in the country, saving costs, and making the service more efficient.

The chief of staff condemned the role played by the various radio and television stations during the civilian regime. He said that the stations, without exception, became [word indistinct] of political parties in power, suppressing or grossly distorting information to suit the whims and purposes of politicians. By so doing, Brigadier Idiagbon added, they fanned the embers of disunity, disaffection, and discord. They also succeeded in poisoning the political atmosphere to such an extent that law and order virtually broke down in many states of the federation.

In his response, the chairman of the committee, Dr Christopher Kolade, pledged the determination of its members. The 10-man committee has Mr T.I. Makonjole as its secretary. It is expected to submit its report by the 16th of next month. Other members of the committee include the director general, FRCN, Mr George Bako; the director general of NTA, Mr Vincent Maduka; and the permanent secretary, Federal Ministry of Information, Social Development, Youth, Sports, and Culture, Mr Wale.

Minister Reaffirms Loyalty, Support to OPEC

Lagos NAN in English 1238 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Lagos, Oct 23 (NAN) — The minister of petroleum and energy, Prof Tam David-West, has sent a message to OPEC member-countries reaffirming Nigeria's support and loyalty to the organisation.

A source at the NNPC [Nigeria National Petroleum Company] told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) in Lagos yesterday that the message became necessary to stem rumours that Nigeria was planning to quit OPEC. The source quoted the minister as saying in the message that the reduction in the price of Nigerian crude would introduce a new dimension into OPEC. The source did not give further details.

The message also said that Nigeria's allegiance to OPEC was very strong and that Nigeria would continue to respect the decisions of the organisation.

Saudi, Mexican Oil Ministers To Visit 24 Oct

AB231750 Paris AFP in English 1734 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Lagos, Oct 23 (AFP) — Saudi Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani is due here tomorrow in what observers say will be a delicate bid to convince Nigeria to reverse last week's

decision cutting oil prices by two dollars a barrel. One official here said he did not see how it would be possible for Nigeria to rescind the decision, as the effects of the move have yet to be felt. Analysts here also point to the fact that it would be difficult for the government to overturn a popular step that has been widely backed by the national media.

The Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation has said Shaykh Yamani, who visited Lagos early in the year, will meet Nigerian Oil Minister Tam David-West and head of state General Muhammadu Buhari. He will be accompanied by Mexican Oil Minister Francisco Ochoa.

The visit comes as OPEC ministers from six of the organization's 13 members, meeting informally in Geneva, have agreed in principle to cut production rather than prices to cope with last week's price reductions announced by Norway, Britain, and Nigeria. Citing Nigeria's pressing financial needs and arguing that there was a limit to the sacrifices it could make for OPEC solidarity, Lagos broke with its OPEC partners and cut the price of its light crude from 30 to 28 dollars a barrel. The announcement by Mr David-West was in response to reductions earlier in the week by Norway and Britain.

Shaykh Yamani is also expected to travel this week to Norway, according to political sources in Oslo, but Norwegian Oil Minister Kaare Kristiansen today said his government would not bow to any OPEC request that it reduce its North Sea oil production.

OPEC oil ministers are scheduled to begin a full ministerial meeting in Geneva next Monday.

NUJ Court Appeal Against Decree No 4 Starts

AB230904 Lagos NAN in English 0811 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Lagos, Oct 22 (NAN) — The NUJ's [Nigerian Union of Journalists] appeal against the ruling of a Lagos high court that it had no locus standi to take legal action on Decree No. 4 of 1984 began today at the Federal Appeals Court. Mr Jola Ogunlusi, the secretary general of the union, is representing the union.

In his submission, Mr Fola Akinrinsola, counsel for the NUJ, said that the appellants had fully established locus standi with the three affidavits they filed at the lower court.

He said that locus standi was a matter of law that could be established by the combination of legal argument and factual evidence. Mr Akinrinsola told the court that the first appellant was an official of the union and the second appellant was a statutory body formed under the trade union amendment act of 1978.

He said that the body was a legal entity by virtue of section 37 of 1979 Constitution.

Mr Akinrinsola further submitted that the fact that the respondent filed no counter-affidavit to controvert the averment showed in law that it admitted all the facts. He said that the high court abandoned factual evidence which was pleaded by holding that the NUJ had no locus standi to institute the action.

According to him, the decision of the high court amounted to a conclusion reached in the absence of factual evidence which were before it.

Mr Akinrinsola urged the appeals court to hold that the NUJ was not challenging the competence of the Federal Military Government in making any decree, but that it wanted the provisions of Decree No. 4 of 1984 to be declared null and void.

Mr Moshood Adio, legal adviser representing the attorney general of the federation, said that the appellants had not shown sufficient interest to enable the court to grant them locus standi. Before a person can sue for a class, he must first have a standing. He must also show (?clarity) of interest, Mr Adio further said.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Leaves for Zambian Celebrations

MB231400 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Pary and president of the People's Republic of Angola, left this morning for Lusaka, the Zambian capital, for a brief working and friendly visit to that neighboring country. The visit, which is part of the mutual consultations between the two Frontline States, is also within the framework of the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of Zambia's independence and the 60th birthday of the Zambian leader, Dr Kenneth Kaunda.

Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos is accompanied by Comrade Alexandre Rodriques Kito, minister of the interior, and Afonso Van Dunem Mbinda, secretary for external relations of the party Central Committee, as well as senior officials of the office of the president of the republic.

Transport Minister Begins Yugoslavia Visit

MB230943 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1000 GMT 22 Oct 84

[Text] Comrade Bernardo de Sousa, the minister of transport and communications, today began a several-day visit to Yugoslavia at the invitation of his counterpart from that country. Comrade Bernardo de Sousa's visit is expected to further strengthen cooperation between the two countries in transport and communications.

UNITA Reports Describe Battle Successes

Renato Interviewed on Strategy

PM221329 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 19 Oct 84 p 4

[A.J. McIlroy dispatch: "Russian Missiles Give UNITA 'Satisfaction'"]

[Text] Jamba — Missiles were having a telling effect in bringing down enemy aircraft, including Russian-made MiG's, Brig Renato, UNITA chief of operations, said at a military meeting in Jamba. "I can't tell you the satisfaction it gives us to see Russian planes brought down by Soviet missiles," he said, pointing to dusters of black marks on an operations map, depicting hits on enemy aircraft.

This was around Huambo, regional capital of central Angola and Cuito Cuanavale, fast of Menongue where Cuban forces and those of the ruling Marxist MPLA were offering the only resistance in southeastern Angola, controlled by UNITA forces. Giving the brief shortly after displaying a number of captured SAM missiles, being prepared for the frontline, the brigadier said that the aircraft "kills" by UNITA had all been achieved with captured missiles and anti-aircraft guns.

"Between Sept 1 and Oct 12, our forces destroyed 18 enemy aircraft," he said. Of these there were Russian MiG's, including four MiG-21's and two of the new enemy squadron of MiG-23's. There were also 12 helicopters knocked out. Brig Renato said that during this period UNITA had killed 706 FAPLA (Angolan government troops), 72 Cuban soldiers, and had captured 82 FAPLA troops. Also taken were 758 enemy weapons. "We had 28 comrades killed in that period, 75 wounded, and 14 disappeared," he said.

The enemy had lost aircraft, particularly helicopters, trying to halt UNITA attacks on convoys supplying enemy garrisons in the Huambo and Menongue areas.

Unita strategy is to continue to carry the guerrilla war to Luanda, the capital. "The boilup, slow at first, is accelerating and we are moving in great strength and with great speed to Luanda," said Brig Renato.

No attempt was being made to capture enemy garrisons in the towns and main villages in the push forward. UNITA's small army, about 20,000 strong, would not have resources to take this course and could not afford to divert men to hold the garrisons from possible counter-attack. UNITA has been fighting the Marxist government which, it claims, has the backing of 35,000 Cubans, 3,500 Russians, and 2,500 East German advisers, since Angolan independence from Portugal in 1975.

Operations on 24-25 September

MB221010 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 22 Oct 84

[War communique on operations between 24 and 25 September, issued by the General Staff of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] at "Jamba strategic base" on 25 September]

[Text] On 24 September, one MiG-21, with registration number C-326, was shot down by FALA forces, 5 km west of (Mungo) and its pilot, a Cuban called (Guissar), killed. Also on 24 September, our forces seized the town of Xamuteba, 160 km east of Malanje along the tarred road to Saurimo. A total of 4 Cubans and 43 elements of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] were killed. Our forces also captured 120 automatic weapons, three B-10 recoilless guns, a half ton of assorted equipment and military uniforms, three Racal radios, three FAPLA soldiers, and a quantity of diamonds.

On 25 September, UNITA forces seized the enemy post of Samba-Lusala, 60 km north-east of Lucala in Cuanza Norte Province. The enemy suffered 27 dead — three Cubans and 24 FAPLA elements. A total of four FAPLA elements, 58 assorted weapons, rounds of ammunition, shells, foodstuffs, and medicines were captured by our forces. Also on 25 September, our forces seized the post of Chinhama in Huambo Province where, among other things, FALA forces destroyed the Chinhama post generator, killed 13 FAPLA elements, captured 15 weapons, and many rounds of ammunition of various calibers. A total of 8,302 civilians were freed from the enemy's concentration camps.

During this period, the following results were obtained: a total of 80 FAPLA elements killed, seven Cubans killed, 193 weapons captured, seven FAPLA elements captured, 8,302 civilians freed, and one MiG shot down. Our forces suffered nine dead, 27 injured, and six weapons lost. Dawn of Africa. Dawn of Angola. Dawn of UNITA. Fatherland or death, united we shall win. Jamba strategic base, 25 September 1984, year of anti-Cuban patriotic front. [Signed] Brigadier Demostenes Amos Chilingutila, the chief of the General Staff.

25-28 September Action

MB221305 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 22 Oct 84

[War communique on operations mounted between 25 to 28 September, issued by the General Staff of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola at "UNITA Central Base" on 28 September]

[Text] In Uige Province, on 28 September our forces, which are victoriously advancing toward the north of the country, seized the strategic enemy stronghold of Cangola, 110 km south of Sanza Pombo. It should be stressed that the attacked position was the advance command post of the First Military Region of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA]. A total of seven Cuban advisers were killed in addition to dozens of FAPLA elements.

On the same date, our forces seized the post of Puri, 66 km southeast of Negage. A total of 49 rifles, 2 Racal radios, and a number of rounds of ammunition of various calibers were captured, and 1,750 civilians were freed from the Cuban oppression.

On 25 September, our forces victoriously attacked the enemy post at Cuimba, 56 km east of Mbanza Congo. In Huambo Province, on 26 September, the town of Chiumba, 15 km northwest of Bela Vista, was seized by our forces and 21 FAPLA elements were killed, including two officers belonging to the reconnaissance company. Also destroyed were two BRDM's and one warehouse. On 25 September, our forces attacked the post at Belo Horizonte, 24 km north of Huambo. A total of five FAPLA elements and about 100 weapons were captured.

On 27 September, in a vain attempt by the enemy to move trains along the Benguela Railroad, a train carrying a joint unit and Cuban troops detonated a landmine on the Bela Vista-Chinguar stretch of railroad, completely destroying the locomotive, derailing six cars and killing 15 FAPLA elements and five Cubans, also wounding a number of them.

In Benguela Province, on 26 September our forces seized the municipality of Cumbira, 21 km northwest of Luimbale. A total of 12 FAPLA elements were killed and the entire military infrastructure was destroyed. In Malanje Province, on 28 September a joint column of FAPLA and Cubans moving from Malanje to retake Xamuteba was attacked on the (Mulo)-Xamuteba stretch of road. In the attack 12 vehicles, one PT-76 tank, and 2 BTR's were destroyed. A total of 21 FAPLA elements and five Cuban tank technicians [words indistinct] killed. During this period, the following results were achieved: a total of 242 FAPLA elements killed, 17 Cubans killed, five FAPLA elements captured, 297 assorted weapons captured, 35 vehicles, 2 BRDM's, and 2 BTR's destroyed, and one PT-76 tank put out of action, onelocomotive burned, and 1,750 civilians freed. UNITA suffered 10 dead, 23 injured, two missing, and six weapons lost. Dawn of Africa. Dawn of Angola. Dawn of UNITA. United we shall win. UNITA Central Base, 28 September 1984. [signed] Brigadier Demostenes Amos Chilingutila.

Briefs

New French Ambassadors — According to last Sunday's issue of the French Government's *OFFICIAL JOURNAL*, Jacques Gasseau has been appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the French Republic to the People's Republic of Angola and nonresident ambassador to Sao Tome and Principe, replacing Jean-Jacques Galabru. Also, Gerard Serre has been appointed France's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Mozambique and nonresident ambassador to Swaziland. [*Paris Diplomatic Information Service in French 1047 GMT 23 Oct 84 AB*]

BOTSWANA

Masire Leaves for Lusaka; Mmusi Acting President

MB231227 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The president, Dr Quett Masire, left Gaborone this morning for Lusaka to attend celebrations marking Zambia's 20th independence anniversary and President Kaunda's 60th birthday. The president has appointed Mr Peter Mmusi acting president during his absence. The appointment was confirmed this morning by the attorney general, Mr (Monimigi Mwakama), who made clarifications regarding the position of Mr Mmusi following the decision by the high court of Botswana to declare the parliamentary elections in Gaborone South constituency null and void.

Mr (Mwakama) said that the post of vice president is now vacant. He explained in a press release statement that in terms of the constitution of Botswana, the vice president is appointed by the president from among members of the National Assembly. However, under the constitution, the attorney general said, the president is empowered to appoint any person who is not a member of the National Assembly to be a minister or assistant minister. Such a person would continue to hold that office for a period of 4 months.

The attorney general further explained that unless the minister or assistant minister becomes a member of the National Assembly before the expiration of the 4 months period, he ceases to be a minister. The president has now appointed Mr Peter Mmusi minister of finance and development planning. In that position, he is able to attend Cabinet meetings and hold any position that the president can appoint him to.

MALAWI

Machel Concludes State Visit, Signs Agreement

Mozambicans To Report 'Bandits'
MB231215 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpt] President Samora Machel has called on Mozambicans living in Malawi to report the presence of the Mozambique National Resistance [MNR] armed bandits in the country to the Malawian authorities. The president was speaking to Mozambicans in Blantyre yesterday, the fourth day of his official visit to Malawi.

He said some of these Mozambicans had fled from colonial cruelty, some had gone to Malawi to seek work, and others had fled from Portuguese bombardment during Mozambique's independence war. Others, however, were collaborators with Portuguese colonialism, who had sought sanctuary in Malawi at the end of independence war. This group, along with deserters from Frelimo's guerrilla army during the freedom struggle, had in recent years been causing problems in relations between Mozambique and Malawi. Some of them had taken Malawian citizenship and were now inside the Malawian Government, the Army, the police and Security Forces.

The president said this group had dedicated themselves to creating difficulties in relations between the two countries. Our correspondent in Malawi says this was reference to clandestine support for organized banditry in Mozambique.

President Machel noted that Malawi, as well as Mozambique, suffered from this banditry because of sabotage on the railroads linking landlocked Malawi to the Mozambican ports of Beira and Nacala. MNR bandits are known to have been crossing into Mozambique from Malawi for several years but there has never been any suggestion official Malawian approval. Border security, however, has been the central topic of talks during President Machel's visit. At the weekend, he publicly called on the Malawian authorities to play a greater role in eliminating the armed bandits.

Our correspondent says the talks have led to agreements between the two governments on border security and organized armed banditry. This opens the way for the signing of accords on economic and other forms of cooperation. One of these was a transport agreement which aims to maximize the quantity of Malawian trade passing through Mozambican ports. This will reduce Malawi's dependence on the much longer and more expensive route through South Africa.

Machel Signs Cooperation Pact
MB231546 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] President Samora Machel is now in Lusaka to attend the celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of Zambia's independence, as well as the 26th anniversary of the founding of the United National Independence Party, and also President Kenneth Kaunda's 60th birthday celebrations. Before leaving Malawi, at the end of his working visit to this country a general cooperation accord between the People's Republic of Mozambique and the Republic of Malawi was signed in Blantyre this morning.

The accord, signed today by Presidents Samora Machel and Kamuzu Banda, provides for the creation of a permanent joint commission to implement the economic and social cooperation between the two countries. In addition, our envoy to Blantyre said that the two presidents, as well as the Mozambican and Malawian officials, have agreed to strict cooperation among the defense and security forces in order to bring about a climate of peace and tranquillity, which will only be possible with secure borders between the two countries.

Before his departure for Lusaka, the Mozambican head of state made a statement to the Malawian press in Blantyre. In his statement, President Machel said that the Mozambican Government will not allow its territory to be transformed into a refuge or transit route for destabilization or criminal agents in Malawi. He added that any elements that prepare, promote, or practice acts of violence and subversion against the Mozambican and Malawian peoples and nations will be expelled from the Mozambican territory.

In his visit to Lusaka, President Samora Machel is accompanied by Mariano Matsinhe, member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau. It is expected that the other officials who accompanied President Samora Machel to Malawi will return home today, the are Sebastiao Mabote and Mario Machungo, members of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau; Alcantara Santos and Joaquim de Carvalho, respectively ministers of ports, railways and merchant shipping and of foreign trade; Jose Carlos Lobo, deputy minister of foreign affairs; and Eduardo Arao, governor of Tete Province.

Machel Concludes Malawi Visit
MB232050 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1800 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Speech by Mozambique President Samora Machel at 23 October farewell and communique signing ceremony attended by Malawi President Kamuzu Banda in Blantyre — recorded]

[Text] Our visit to Malawi will convey a new image of Malawi to our country and our people, and the Malawian people will also have a new image of Mozambique, the Mozambican people, and their government.

Here we have built unity and friendship, and we have established joint solidarity and shown human warmth for each other — love — and this is what matters most. We should preserve this kind of respect between heads of state. The head of state is the symbol of the country's unity. I represent national unity here — the unity of the Mozambican state. I represent the deepest aspirations of the Mozambican people, just as President Ngwazi Kamuzu Banda expresses the views of the Malawian people and is the symbol of Malawian unity.

I wish there were no intrigues promoted by ministers and other people with regard to heads of state, particularly when such intrigues serve alien and foreign interests and not the national interests. We are aware that our domination came about because the Europeans divided us up. They divided us and ruled over us. They have always used intrigues — Malawi against Mozambique, Mozambique against Malawi. They used tribes and ethnic groups, thus weakening our state and our unity.

Now, Mr President, we have come to create a unity of steel. Steel unity means sand, water, cement, and iron together. The combination of these elements makes a solid final product. This is the view of the Mozambican delegation. We are discussing and assessing our visit. We shall convene the Central Committee in Mozambique. We shall convene the Government of Mozambique in order to project Malawi's views. This is necessary. Friendship and cooperation between us is a prerequisite. We have not come to ask for anything. Nothing whatsoever. We have come to ask for cooperation, not aid.

In Europe, in any part of the globe, this is our policy: We do not want aid, we want cooperation leading to mutual advantages and a sharing of benefits. In this way we will combine our resources and wealth so as to be strong and to continue to bring about prosperity and happiness for our peoples.

As we reach the end of our visit we are very touched, Mr President. The documents that we are about to sign represent a mixing of the Malawian people's blood with the blood of the people of Mozambique. These documents are not a sham, nor are they mere words. They are historic. Let us draw our inspiration from these documents, and let all our actions and guidelines stem from these documents. Within our government we are going to study methods of applying the documents signed with Malawi. This is the second or third country in our region here with which Mozambique has signed agreements. We have similar cooperation agreements with Tanzania, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe [sentence as heard]. Only with these countries. In West Africa [as heard], we have cooperation agreements with Angola and Congo, and nobody else. But in Western Europe and in Socialist Europe we have plenty of cooperation accords. Thus we know the spirit and letter that guide these documents.

Mr President, thank you very much. Thank you very much, Mama Kadzamira. Thank you very much, members of the Malawi ministerial Cabinet. We are leaving Malawi very happy indeed. Thank you very much. [applause].

MOZAMBIQUE

27 Killed as 'Bandits' Ambush Bus Near Maputo

MB231909 Maputo Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Twenty-seven people have been killed and eight wounded when MNR [Mozambique National Resistance - Renamo] bandits ambushed a bus about 60 km north of Maputo. The driver of the bus told AIM that the attack occurred at 1400 last Thursday afternoon between Manhica and Marracuene. About 70 were on board. Mr Ferrao said a hail of bullets smashed into the windscreen and windows of the bus. He said he put his head down but kept driving, bringing the bus to a stop on the side of the road.

Mr Ferrao said two bullets had lodged in his right leg. In a panic passengers fled the bus, despite more bullets. Those who did, he said, were killed. Mr Ferrao said the bandits stopped shooting and ordered the survivors out and the bandits looted the baggage and fled. They did not burn the bus as is customary. The passengers were rescued about half an hour later by a military patrol and taken to Maputo Central Hospital. This is the second time Mr Ferrao has been ambushed by bandits. He told the news agency that despite the ambushes, he intends to return to his job.

DPRK's Yi Chong-ok to Visit 25-29 October

MB231332 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Yi Chong-ok, the vice president of the DPRK, will make an official visit to our country from 25 to 29 October at the invitation of the government of the People's Republic of Mozambique. This was announced in Maputo this morning in a press communique.

Labor Secretary Travels to GDR for Visit

MB231919 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] According to ADN, Aguiar Real Mazula, the secretary of state for labor, arrived in Berlin this morning for a working visit to the GDR. During his visit, Aguiar Mazula will exchange experiences with the GDR officials in the field of labor and salaries. The source also pointed out that our country's secretary of state for labor will also visit a number of workplaces there.

Zimbabwe Tourism Minister Comments on Visit

MB190810 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1900 GMT 18 Oct 84

[Text] Victoria Chitepo, Zimbabwean minister of natural resources and tourism, has ended her 8-day visit to Mozambique. This morning the minister gave a press conference to announce some of the accomplishments in her official talks with staff of the state secretariat for tourism. During the press conference a source close to the official meetings described the talks and stressed the promise for cooperation in tourism.

[Begin recording — unidentified speaker] Our political, social, and economic development cannot be implemented without closer bilateral relations between the two neighboring countries. It is within this context that the two countries feel duty-bound to share and improve their abundant resources. Therefore, these fields were defined for cooperation: tourism, development of joint tours, tourist areas, rehabilitation and development of tourist installations, and joint training; conservation and utilization of lands, management of natural resources, research and personnel training, tsetse fly control, protection of wildlife, fisheries and establishment of fishing zones, research in fishing zones, person-

nel training and fish supply; forests, seed exchange and research, research on exotic trees, development of botanical gardens, timber supply, and the importance of personnel training. [end recording]

After these details of the talks were presented, Victoria Chitepo, Zimbabwean minister of natural resources and tourism, said that it was likely the two countries would broaden cooperation in tourism in the near future.

[Begin Chitepo recording, in English fading to Portuguese translation] My visit has been very successful because we have explored many areas in which our two countries can cooperate in tourism. We discussed wildlife and natural resources and we reached a specific agreement on forests.

I had the opportunity of meeting Joao Ferreira, minister of agriculture, and we decided to work toward training Mozambican personnel. I have the pleasure to inform you that we shall train Mozambican students in forestry, and workers of the Mozambique forests enterprise will also be trained in Zimbabwe. We are going to launch some programs in wildlife shortly. As for fisheries, we expect to establish a research unit. [end recording]

That was a statement by the Zimbabwe minister of natural resources and tourism when she addressed a press conference in Maputo this morning at the end of her visit to Mozambique. At the end of the press conference, Antonio Materula, state secretary for tourism, said that a document will be prepared shortly and will be analyzed by the ministries involved in the issues discussed with the goal of signing a bilateral agreement with the Zimbabwean Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

Briefs

Soviet Solidarity Week — A photographic and craft exhibition from the Lithuanian SSR opens today, marking the beginning of a solidarity and friendship week in Maputo between the Mozambican and Soviet peoples. For this purpose a delegation from the LSSR arrived in Maputo this morning to take part in the celebrations of the solidarity and friendship week. The Soviet delegation is led by (Viktor Glyunt), deputy chairman of the Presidium of the LSSR. [Text] [*Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 18 Oct 84 MB*]

Oil Exploration Contract — The AMOCO production company has signed a contract for petroleum exploration and production in four offshore blocks in Mozambique's Zambeze Delta. The contract, signed in London yesterday, is in the form of a production-sharing agreement with the Mozambican national oil company. AMOCO, a subsiduary of Standard Oil, will search for oil for an initial period of 3 years and the contract allows for an extention of a further 4 years in all. Exploration will be carried out over an area of more than 20,00 square kilometers where two other oil companies have previously carried out limited investigations. This is the first offshore agreement to be signed since the biding for the block was closed last March. [Text] [*Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 18 Oct 84 MB*]

NAMIBIA

MPC Official Notes FRG Talks Better Than Expected

MB231856 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The secretary of the Multiparty Conference of South-West Africa, Dr Lucas de Vries, has described the conference's first talks in West Germany as more successful than expected. The delegation held talks with representatives of the biggest political foundation in West Germany, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, and the minister of state, Dr (Hans Jorgen Borgen).

SOUTH AFRICA

Von Schirnding Warns UN Against 'Meddling'

MB240830 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text] South Africa has warned the United Nations that if it continues to condemn it and meddle in its domestic affairs it will be forced to withdraw its contribution toward peace in southern Africa. The warning was given to the Security Council at the world organization by the South African representative, Mr Kurt Von Schirnding, who, according to our Washington representative, said that South Africa rejected whatever decisions the council arrived at concerning the country's domestic affairs. Mr Von Schirnding said that the government of South Africa bore responsibility for the safety and well being of its citizens.

He said that the government would not be diverted from its duty to maintain law and order by any action of the Security Council. The Security Council adopted another resolution yesterday condemning South African internal policies. The United States abstained from voting. The resolution was adopted after debate, which had been requested by the African bloc at the United Nations.

Mr Von Schirnding told the Security Council that it had been irregularly convened to consider, in flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, matters which indisputably fell solely within the sphere of South African domestic affairs. Mr Von Schirnding said that there was no real desire in the United Nations to evaluate social, economic, and political development in South Africa fairly and objectively.

South Africa had learned that when South African affairs were discussed in violation of the United Nations charter it could expect no just, equitable, or honest assessment of the South African scene. Mr Von Schirnding said that it was ludicrous that South Africa should be roundly condemned by members of the United Nations, whose own people were indisputably worse off than South Africans of all colors.

Police-Army Enter More Towns, Journalists Get Tour

Sharpeville, Boipatong Included

MB231430 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1422 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Pretoria, Oct 23, SAPA — The 7,000 policemen and soldiers who today launched a predawn search through Sebokeng have been instructed to move onto the neighbouring townships of Sharpeville and Boipatong. Police spokesman Lieutenant Johan Barnard said in Pretoria the two-pronged search after the raid on Sebokeng had not been premeditated.

However, with the task force in the Vanderbijlpark/Vereeniging area, the SAP [South African Police] had decided to launch an operation in Sharpeville and Boipatong similar to the one in Sebokeng, in which 354 people were arrested by today. Both townships were being cordoned off and searched, Lieutenant Barnard said. The statement, read by Lieutenant Barnard said: "The South African Police, assisted by the Defence Force, has decided, because the manpower is at present available, to cordon off and search Sharpeville and Boipatong. It will be similar to the operation that took place in Sebokeng. It (the search) was not planned beforehand but was decided, as already stated, because the manpower was available." The police spokesman did not comment on whether any arrests had been made in the latest township searches.

In Sharpeville earlier today, police used rubber bullets to disperse crowds of rioting people, arresting five people under the act on riotous assemblies. Lieutenant Barnard also said a group of some 500 people marched on the West Rand administration board offices this morning. Police used rubber bullets and tearsmoke.

Journalists Tour 'Peaceful' Township

MB231205 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Excerpts] Local and foreign newsmen were taken on a tour of the black township of Sebokeng today in the Vaal Triangle after about 7,000 police and troops had begun the operation aimed at restoring law and order. They reported the township as peaceful and that thousands of workers were able to go to work as usual. The newsmen saw the damage caused by rioters in Sebokeng, and they were shown the gutted offices of th local Administration Board as well as damage to shops, supermarkets, and vehicles.

Lieutenant Beck of the police said people who had been questioned during the house-to-house search received orange stickers to indicate that they were free to leave the township at will. Many residents wore the stickers, which said: "I am your friend, trust me," or "Operation for Peace and Security."Pamphlets were also distributed calling on pupils to attend school. A police spokesman says there were no reports of unrest in black resident areas today.

The mayor of Vereeniging, Mr Marius (Meyer), said he supported the operation. Mr (Meyer) said it was really necessary as the current lack of law and order was disrupting the lives of law-abiding people in the township. The Vereeniging town secretary, Mr J. Coetzee, said it was in the interests of black residents that law and order should be restored to allow the smooth administration of the township.

Operation To 'Restore Peace'

MB231555 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Station commentary: "Restoring Peace in Areas of Unrest"]

[Text] The unrest situation, which has existed for the past 2 months in certain black residential areas in South Africa, clearly cannot be allowed to continue indefinitely. It is for this reason that a special operation was mounted early today to restore peace to the township of Sebokeng, where criminal and revolutionary elements have severely disrupted the lives of ordinary people.

Troops are assisting the police in the operation, which the vast majority of residents have welcomed. People of the town have let it be known that they are tired of the killings, arson, and looting perpetrated by a small minority of criminals and political activists.

Announcing the operation, the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, said that the police, assisted by troops, would do all in their power to restore the situation to normal as soon as possible, but would remain in the area as long as it was necessary to achieve this goal. A spokesman for the ministry added that Sebokeng was chosen for the crackdown as it was the sensitive area of unrest in the industrialized Vaal Triangle district.

Many people have lost their lives, damage to property amounts to millions of rands, and thousands of schoolchildren have been prevented from attending classes. The crux of the matter is that ordinary, peace-loving people have had enough of the mindless violence, which for so long has disrupted their daily living. People are no longer prepared to tolerate the utterances of political activists, when all they see around them is violence and its destructive effects.

However, peace-loving people are powerless against groups of agitators and intimidators, and law and order can only be restored by those who are entrusted with the task. There is nothing sinister about the fact that troops are assisting the police in the Sebokeng operation. It is common practice in many parts of the world, when unusual circumstances demand it. The police are in charge of the operation, and troops are being used only in a supportive role, primarily in cordoning off the town for the duration of the operation.

The vast majority of black people in South Africa are against violence, and are aware of the fact that the accomodation of their political aspirations is the government's highest priority. This evolutionary process, however, cannot continue while the instigators of violence and unrest are allowed to bedevil it.

Coventry Four Issue Embroils Botha, Slabbert, UK

Slabbert Says Botha Wrong

MB231233 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1058 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Cape Town, Oct 23, SAPA — The leader of the Progressive Federal Party, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, today differed sharply with the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, on his interpretation of yesterday's British court judgment on the four South Africans who did not appear to face arms smuggling charges.

Mr Botha has expressed his delight about a remark by the British court that the South African Government had political and legal reasons entitling it to break its undertaking that the men would appear if granted bail. Dr Slabbert pointed out today that the court had, at the same time, said it was not competent to rule on that matter.

Mr Botha maintained that the South African Government had come out of the court proceedings with dignity and without any criticism by the court. The court had refuted the allegation that South Africa had broken its word at random. Dr Slabbert said he wished it was as simple as Mr Botha tried to make it seem.

The court had rejected the reasons why South Africa should not forfeit the R800,000 bail money for the four men. It had also found that the SA Government had broken its solemn undertaking to a British court and for that reason the four could not be held responsible for not appearing in court, but nevertheless warrants for their arrests were issued.

"How the minister can see this as a vindication of the government's actions is beyond me. I am afraid that we have not yet seen the end of the political and diplomatic repercussions of the government's actions. It is unlikely that any British court will exonerate the government. This will have to be done through political and diplomatic efforts in an attempt to restore our integrity in international affairs," Dr Slabbert said.

Rifkind Says Relations Affected

MB231744 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The British Government has told the South African ambassador in London, Dr Denis Worral, that South Africa's decision not to send the Coventry Four to England could significantly affect relations between the two countries. The minister in the Foreign Office responsible for Africa, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, said in the House of Commons that he had summoned Dr Worral for a meeting this morning. Mr Rifkind said he had conveyed to Dr Worral Britain's strong condemnation of the South African action. Mr Rifkind rejected demands by the opposition Labor Party that either Dr Worral or Mr Andre Pelser, the first secretary at the South African Embassy in London, be expelled.

Botha Reacts To UK Statement

MB231933 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1900 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has reacted to a British Government statement that South Africa's decision not to send the Coventry Four to England could significantly affect relations between the two countries. Mr Botha said in a statement released in Pretoria that no useful purpose will be served by the governments of the two countries merely stating over and over again that they do not agree. Everyone knows this by now. Mr Botha said it was a pity the British prosecutors in Coventry, where the four were due to appear in court today, did not use the opportunity to react to South Africa's arguments when they had the chance to do so.

Labor Party Supports Hendrickse on Tutu Prize

MB211149 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 21 Oct 84

[Text] The National Executive Committee of the Labor Party says in a statement that it endorses the action of the party leader, the Reverend Alan Hendrickse, in congratulating the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Bishop Desmond Tutu, on winning the Nobel Peace Prize.

The committee has been meeting at Beaufort West. It points out, however, that there are other South Africans, such as Mrs Helen Suzman and Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, who have done more for peaceful change and over a longer period. The committee says it noted the threatening attitude Bishop Tutu adopted regarding colored participation in the new constitution.

Radio Commentary Criticizes Tutu Prize

MB221818 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 22 Oct 84

[Station commentary: "Bishop Tutu and Disinvestment"]

[Text] The awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Bishop Desmond Tutu, has been widely acclaimed at home and abroad, but it emerges very clearly from the tributes published in newspapers that not all the bishop's views are shared by his admirers in South Africa. One of the causes Bishop Tutu most assiduously promotes on his overseas visits is disinvestment, and it is on this question that even his most ardent admirers in South Africa disagree with him.

One of the country's most well-known liberal thinkers and critics of the government, Dr Alan Paton, questions the bishop's morality on the issue of disinvestment. In an article in *THE SUNDAY TIMES* of 21 October, Dr Paton says he cannot understand how Bishop Tutu's Christian conscience can allow him to advocate disinvestment. I do not understand how you can put a man out of work for a high moral principle, Dr Paton says. It would go against my deepest principles to advocate anything that would put a man, and especially a black man, out of a job, therefore I cannot understand your position.

Dr Paton's view coincides with that of all responsible leaders in South Africa — black as well as white — and also with two-thirds of the black workers in the country. A recent survey conducted by Prof L. Schlemmer of the University of Natal showed that 66 percent of the country's black workers reject any form of disinvestment or economic boycott action. It is not only the blacks within South Africa's borders who will be hardest hit by successful economic moves against the country. The economic interdependence of states in southern Africa is such that no one in the subcontinent will escape the effects of disinvestment from the republic.

Earlier this month, Mr Harry Oppenheimer said in an address to the Foreign Policy Association in New York: The trouble with the policy of disinvestment is that it works — if it works at all — for violent and not peaceful solutions.

It has been pointed out to Bishop Tutu by his admirers that, as a Nobel Peace Prize winner, he will have a greater responsibility, as his words and actions are going to count more in the future than they have in the past. Says Dr Paton: I do not envy your responsibility. It will require a measure of wisdom and courage that has never been required, and certainly has never been shown before.

Significance of Jorge Dismissal in Angola Discussed
MB230850 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Editorial commentary: "Dismissal of Mr Paulo Jorge"]

[Text] The dismissal of the hardliner, Angolan Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Paulo Jorge, by President dos Santos, is indeed a favorable step, although right now the implications are not clear. Of particular significance is the fact that the dismissal came only days after the American deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Mr Frank Wisner, visited Luanda and held talks which both parties described as positive. It also followed recent statements by President dos Santos indicating that he is becoming more amenable to the idea of a Cuban withdrawal from Angola.

It is well known that there exists within the MPLA government both a moderate and a radical faction. The radical faction consists mainly of mulattoes who support the Soviet Union and its aspirations, and who favor Soviet surrogate forces assisting the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] in finding a military solution to Angola's problems with UNITA. The moderate faction, which President dos Santos is reported to favor wants to attempt to reach an accommodation with UNITA through negotiations.

In June, UNITA leader Dr Savimbi said his information was that radicals within the Angolan government had said that if UNITA is not crippled within 3 to 6 months, then they would agree to moderate demands for negotiations. All reports from Angola indicate that UNITA is far from crippled, and Dr Savimbi's forces are continuing to expand their activities.

Late last year, Britain's minister of state for Africa at the foreign office, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, paid a visit to Angola to assess the level of the war. He came to the conclusion that it was more than a guerilla action. It had become, he said, a substantial civil war. Certainly the civil war is confronting the MPLA government with a serious predicament. Virtually the entire infrastructure of the country today lies in ruins. More than one-third of Angola is under the full control of UNITA, and the other one-third of the country is destablized. The Cuban presence in Angola is costing the government $1 million a day, which is good news for Cuba's Fidel Castro, but for the people of Angola who are suffering and starving, this money would best be spent on improving their lot.

Increasingly, reports indicate that the Angolan people are becoming more and more disenchanted with the Cubans. A dramatic illustration of this was the clash recently between Cuban and FAPLA forces. The FAPLA forces of President dos Santos are justifiably irritated over the fact that the Cubans are given the bulk of available food and are generally treated as a privileged class in the country.

It has become clear to observers that the key to the resolution of the Angolan conflict, as well as a settlement in South-West Africa, is an agreememt between UNITA and the MPLA. Earlier this year the American ambassador to South Africa, Mr Herman Nickel, declared: There has to be a political resolution to this conflict. We think that both sides in the Angolan conflict realize that neither can dictate the outcome by military means alone.

An accommodation between UNITA and MPLA would also constitute the first major step towards a settlement in South-West Africa. Agreement between those two forces would make a Cuban presence unnecessary. A Cuban withdrawal coupled with the control of SWAPO activities by FAPLA would result in an immediate withdrawal of South African forces from southern Angola, and that would pave the way for elections in South-West Africa and in internationally recognized independent Namibia. It is a complex scenario, but the dismissal of Mr Paulo Jorge constitutes a step in the right direction.

Commentary Expresses Optimism on Mozambique Talks
MB191715 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 19 Oct 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] There have been welcome signs that the Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique is still on course, despite all the reports claiming that the rapprochement between the two countries is shakey and about to collapse. A communique issued by the Mozambique Council of Ministers says that the declaration of Pretoria was a step forward towards ending the violence and armed activity in Mozambique. At the same time the communique declared that a quick and unambiguous implementation of the declaration of Pretoria, which envisages an end to the fighting in Mozambique, could lead to an achievement of all the goals of the Nkomati Accord.

This, then, appears to be the main problem — the continuing fighting in Mozambique between the Mozambique National Resistence, Renamo, and the forces of Frelimo and, it seems, some suspicion that either South Africa is assisting Renamo or that they are not doing enough to ensure an end to Renamo activities. Perhaps some logic should be applied to this emotional issue.

It is no secret that, inasmuch as the Nkomati Accord holds considerable material and other benefits for Mozambique, so it has provided South Africa with a big diplomatic boost, and has removed from South Africa's shoulders the burden of ANC terrorist activity from Mozambique. In other words, South Africa has a very real interest in ensuring that the Nkomati accord works and is properly implemented.

Against this background, it would appear to be the height of foolishness for South Africa to assist Renamo in any efforts to continue guerrilla activity in Mozambique. Rather, it would be in the interests of South Africa to act as honest broker in bringing Renamo and Frelimo together for discussions, something which has happened on several occasions in Pretoria.

The point to make is that guerrilla wars are virtually impossible to stop. They can be contained — controlled to a certain extent — but a total elimination of a guerrilla force is near impossibility. This was the experience of the Portuguese in Africa. The Soviets in Afghanistan are finding that thousands of troops armed with the most modern equipment cannot quell the guerrilla fighting in that country. Even South Africa has not wiped out either SWAPO or the ANC, while the British are tearing out their hair over the IRA's urban terrorism.

In the final analysis, therefore, if a political solution cannot be achieved, then it is up to the security forces of a country to contain the violence. But certainly, insofar as Mozambique is concerned, South Africa has nothing to gain from continuing instability in that country, and this country shares the concern of the Mozambican Government over the continuing unrest and the violence.

ANC Commentary on Armed Struggle, Shift to Offensive

EA192157 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 18 Oct 84

[ANC Program; station commentary titled: "The Way Forward to Victory"]

[Text] The ongoing disturbances and unrest in apartheid South Africa have landed the racist regime into deeper and deeper levels of (?crisis). The future of the apartheid regime is dark and bleak, while for us it is becoming brighter and brighter with each passing day. Our heroism, determination and sacrifices [words indistinct] the people of South Africa are no longer prepared to be governed in the same old way by an illegal regime that has no moral and no legal justification to govern our country.

The question that confronts all our people today in their various organizational formations is: Which way forward? Where do we go from here? It is true that (?in preparing) ourselves for the overthrow of the racist regime that we are preparing ourselves for the seizure of power in our country. However, there are the day-to-day tactical questions that need to be answered. We need to devise new methods of attack and defense. We need to plan our attacks in such a way that we inflict the maximum damage on the enemy, both installations and personnel, while incurring the minimum losses on our side.

In the 8 January National Executive statement, Comrade President Oliver Tambo said, and we quote: The apartheid regime maintains an extensive administrative system through which it directs our lives. This system includes organs of central and provincial government the army and the police, the judiciary, the bantustans administration, the community councils, the local management and local affairs committees. It is these institutions of apartheid power that we must attack and demolish as part of the struggle to put an end to racist minority rule in our country. Needless to say, as strategy we must select for attack those parts of the enemy administrative system which we have the power to destroy as a result of our united and determined offensive. We must hit the enemy where he is weakest, unquote.

The recent struggles in the townships around the country bear testimony to the maturity of the political consciousness of the people. It is a matter of pride to record that in this struggle certain enemy puppet institutions as well as the (?elections) of the system have been attacked. Such has been the level of these offensives that some of the stooges of apartheid were forced to resign in fear of their lives.

One paper, the *FINANCIAL TIMES*, commented that lack of government in the townships is threatening their collapse. Even the puppets now fear to be seen to be collaborating with the enemy. Indeed, we mean to intensify the offensive. The (?electives) of the regime must have no rest. They must stay in perpetual (?fear). They must not sleep in the townships. They must be forced to sleep in the backyards of their masters. That is where they belong. They do not belong among the masses of the people. Yet, as we have already pointed out, we must attack with stealth and cunning. Without exposing ourselves to unnecessary danger. We must fight one battle and survive to fight another one tomorrow. Above all, while we are aware that we also will suffer casualties, but we must try and avoid these to the greatest possible extent.

To move forward we must go on the offensive. We must attack. Again the 8 January statement guides (?us). (?President) Tambo says, quote: It is essential that we continue to shift our posture from defensive to offensive. The enemy has failed to destroy us and never will. But [words indistinct] is not enough. It is in the attack that we must push and find victory. Nor should we wait for the enemy to take the initiative and then react to his (words indistinct] a responsibility to accomplish for our country and for humanity. Our historic action is to pursue it with relentless determination and persistence whatever the enemy does or plans to do. [no reference to closing quote as heard]

What does going on the offensive mean? This question has already been answered in our past [word indistinct]. We have pointed out that the houses of lackeys have been petrol-bombed, [words indistinct]. The houses of policemen have also come under fire. An example that immediately comes to mind is this one: Our

country is a symbol of police control; sometimes they move in groups of four or five. [Words indistinct] number to uproot this police patrols [words indistinct] emphasize the question of maximum security. We attack only those that we can capture and destroy. Remember: At all times, surprise is the best form of attack. When we ambush these patrols they should not be given time to even think or consider their next move. This is the immediate [words indistinct] their weapons confiscated for future use.

[Words indistinct] the country's government means that it must be increasingly difficult for the Pretoria regime to maintain law and order in the country. Of course, in the context of apartheid, law and order means the continued oppression of the majority. It means the continued arrest and murder of the opposors of apartheid.

Fellow countrymen, we are at war and we must begin to think along those lines. We must begin to act in that way. It is imperative that we heighten the level of organization, (?that) we lay particular emphasis on underground organizations. [Words indistinct] the maximum productivity in the armed struggle, that is the key to victory in our [word indistinct]. (?we must) [word indistinct] (?the system). The police come, and they don't hesitate to open fire [words indistinct]. Now we must answer back an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, and a life for a life. [Words indistinct] that armed struggle is an indispensable component of the revolutionary struggle that we are waging.

President Olvier Tambo said this [words indistinct], we quote: Today armed struggle is a vital indispensable component of the struggle for national and social liberation in South Africa. [words indistinct] the apartheid regime (?denies this) [Words indistinct] army and police on bought mercenaries and on puppet armies and murderous puppet administration who slaughter men as readily as they [word indistinct] children. The democratic majority in our country have fought [words indistinct] of Umkhonto We Sizwe [spearhead of the nation; ANC military wing] (?This) rise in sophistication will yet compound the survival problems of the apartheid system. To this end continuous (?combat readiness) Umkhonto We Sizwe must (?be proliferated) and grow inextricably among the popular masses, among us the workers, [words indistinct], the youth, the women, as we the unemployed, the landless, the homeless and the struggling millions. [words indistinct] Forward for victory in our lifetime! [no reference to closing quote as heard]

Briefs

Trade With Zimbabwe — The president of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries, Mr A.G. Paterson, said the balance of trade between South Africa and Zimbabwe in the past 3 years has been in favor of South Africa to the extent of nearly 100 million rand. Mr Paterson says indications are that trade between the two countries will increase. He was speaking at the conference of the Federated Chamber of Industries in Johannesburg. [Text] [*Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 17 Oct 84 MB*]

March 1985 Census — The biggest census ever held in Africa is to take place in South Africa on 5 March 1985. The census is the 14th since 1905, and will cost 35 million rand. The director of demography at the Central Statistical Services, Dr Neville Gouws, told a news conference in Pretoria that rapid development and the population growth rate had made it necessary to hold a census next year. He said more reliable statistics were needed than those obtainable in the usual 10-yearly census. Our Pretoria news staff reports that, in contrast with the 75 questions asked in the 1980 census, the 1985 questionnaire asks only 12 questions. [Text] [*Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 17 Oct 84 MB*]

ZAMBIA

Heads of State Arrive for National Celebrations

MB231358 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 23 Oct 84

[Text] Invited foreign guests have begun arriving in Lusaka for the celebrations to mark the country's 20th independence anniversary, President Kaunda's 60th birthday, and the 25th year of the founding of the United National Independence Party. Those who have arrived are Presidents Quett Masire of Botswana, Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya, and Samora Machel of Mozambique.

President Kaunda is at Lusaka International Airport to welcome his guests. With him is party Secretary General Humphrey Mulemba, Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia, Secretary of State for Defense and Security Grey Zulu, as well as other senior party and government officials. The five presidents who have arrived are among the six African leaders who are expected to arrive today to the tripartite celebrations.